## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

# FORM DEF 14A

Definitive proxy statements

Filing Date: 2013-01-09 | Period of Report: 2013-02-19 SEC Accession No. 0001193125-13-007691

(HTML Version on secdatabase.com)

### **FILER**

#### Poage Bankshares, Inc.

CIK:1511071 IRS No.: 00000000 | State of Incorp.:MD | Fiscal Year End: 0930 Type: DEF 14A | Act: 34 | File No.: 001-35295 | Film No.: 13519580 SIC: 6035 Savings institution, federally chartered Mailing Address 1500 CARTER AVENUE ASHLAND KY 41101 Business Address 1500 CARTER AVENUE ASHLAND KY 41101 606-324-7196

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## **SCHEDULE 14A**

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. )

Filed by the Registrant  $\square$ 

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant  $\Box$ 

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

- □ Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- ☑ Definitive Proxy Statement
- Definitive Additional Materials
- □ Soliciting Material under §240.14a-12

# **POAGE BANKSHARES, INC.**

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

☑ No fee required.

 $\Box$  Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

- (1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:
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□ Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

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(1) Amount Previously Paid:

(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:



January 8, 2013

Dear Stockholder:

We cordially invite you to attend the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Poage Bankshares, Inc. The Annual Meeting will be held at the branch office of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association located at 6628 U.S. 60, Ashland, Kentucky 41102 on February 19, 2013, at 10:00 a.m., local time.

The enclosed Notice of Annual Meeting and Proxy Statement describe the formal business to be transacted. During the Annual Meeting we will also report on the operations of Poage Bankshares, Inc. Also enclosed for your review is our 2012 Annual Report to Stockholders, which contains detailed information concerning our activities and operating performance. Our directors and officers, as well as a representative of our independent registered public accounting firm, will be present to respond to any questions that stockholders may have.

The business to be conducted at the Annual Meeting consists of (i) the election of two directors, (ii) the consideration of an advisory, non-binding proposal with respect to the executive compensation as described in the Proxy Statement, (iii) the consideration of an advisory, non-binding proposal with respect to the frequency that stockholders will vote on our executive compensation, (iv) the approval of the Poage Bankshares, Inc. 2013 Equity Incentive Plan, and (v) the ratification of the appointment of Crowe Horwath LLP as independent registered public accounting firm for the year ending September 30, 2013. The Board of Directors has determined that the matters to be considered at the Annual Meeting are in the best interest of Poage Bankshares, Inc. and its stockholders, and the Board of Directors unanimously recommends a vote "FOR" each matter to be considered.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we urge you to sign, date and return the enclosed proxy card as soon as possible, even if you currently plan to attend the Annual Meeting. This will not prevent you from voting in person, but will assure that your vote is counted if you are unable to attend the Annual Meeting. Your vote is important, regardless of the number of shares that you own.

Our Proxy Statement and the 2012 Annual Report to Stockholders are available at http://www.cfpproxy.com/7069.

Sincerely,

Thomas RyperA

J. Thomas Rupert Chairman of the Board

### Poage Bankshares, Inc. 1500 Carter Avenue Ashland, Kentucky 41101 (606) 324-7196 NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS To Be Held On February 19, 2013

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Poage Bankshares, Inc. will be held at the branch office of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association located at 6628 U.S. 60, Ashland, Kentucky 41102 on February 19, 2013, at 10:00 a.m., local time.

A Proxy Card and Proxy Statement for the Annual Meeting are enclosed. The Annual Meeting is for the purpose of considering and acting upon:

- 1. the election of two directors;
- 2. an advisory, non-binding proposal resolution with respect to the executive compensation as described in the proxy statement;
- 3. an advisory, non-binding resolution with respect to the frequency that stockholders will vote on our executive compensation;
- 4. the approval of the Poage Bankshares, Inc. 2013 Equity Incentive Plan;
- 5. the ratification of the appointment of Crowe Horwath LLP as independent registered public accounting firm for the year ending September 30, 2013; and

such other matters as may *properly* come before the Annual Meeting, or any adjournments thereof. The Board of Directors is not aware of any other business to come before the Annual Meeting.

Any action may be taken on the foregoing proposals at the Annual Meeting on the date specified above, or on the date or dates to which the Annual Meeting may be adjourned. Stockholders of record at the close of business on December 28, 2012 are the stockholders entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting, and any adjournments thereof.

EACH STOCKHOLDER, WHETHER HE OR SHE PLANS TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING, IS REQUESTED TO SIGN, DATE AND RETURN THE ENCLOSED PROXY CARD WITHOUT DELAY IN THE ENCLOSED POSTAGE-PAID ENVELOPE. ANY PROXY GIVEN BY THE STOCKHOLDER MAY BE REVOKED AT ANY TIME BEFORE IT IS VOTED. A PROXY MAY BE REVOKED BY FILING WITH THE SECRETARY OF POAGE BANKSHARES, INC. A WRITTEN REVOCATION OR A DULY EXECUTED PROXY CARD BEARING A LATER DATE. ANY STOCKHOLDER PRESENT AT THE ANNUAL MEETING MAY REVOKE HIS OR HER PROXY AND VOTE PERSONALLY ON EACH MATTER BROUGHT BEFORE THE ANNUAL MEETING. HOWEVER, IF YOU ARE A STOCKHOLDER WHOSE SHARES ARE NOT REGISTERED IN YOUR OWN NAME, YOU WILL NEED ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION FROM YOUR RECORD HOLDER IN ORDER TO VOTE IN PERSON AT THE ANNUAL MEETING.

By Order of the Board of Directors

Gm K

James W. King Secretary

Ashland, Kentucky January 8, 2013

IMPORTANT: THE PROMPT RETURN OF PROXIES WILL SAVE THE EXPENSE OF FURTHER REQUESTS FOR PROXIES. A SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS ENCLOSED FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE. NO POSTAGE IS REQUIRED IF MAILED WITHIN THE UNITED STATES.

#### PROXY STATEMENT

Poage Bankshares, Inc. 1500 Carter Avenue Ashland, Kentucky 41101 (606) 324-7196

#### ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

#### February 19, 2013

This Proxy Statement is furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies on behalf of the Board of Directors of Poage Bankshares, Inc. to be used at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which will be held at the branch office of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association located at 6628 U.S. 60, Ashland, Kentucky 41102 on February 19, 2013, at 10:00 a.m., local time, and all adjournments of the Annual Meeting. The accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders and this Proxy Statement are first being mailed to stockholders on or about January 9, 2013.

#### **REVOCATION OF PROXIES**

Stockholders who execute proxies in the form solicited hereby retain the right to revoke them in the manner described below. Unless so revoked, the shares represented by such proxies will be voted at the Annual Meeting and all adjournments thereof. Proxies solicited on behalf of the Board of Directors of Poage Bankshares, Inc. will be voted in accordance with the directions given thereon. Where no instructions are indicated, validly executed proxies will be voted "FOR" the proposals set forth in this Proxy Statement for consideration at the Annual Meeting.

Proxies may be revoked by sending written notice of revocation to the Secretary of Poage Bankshares, Inc. at the address shown above, delivering a later-dated proxy card or by attending the Annual Meeting and voting in person. The presence at the Annual Meeting of any stockholder who had returned a proxy shall not revoke such proxy unless the stockholder delivers his or her ballot in person at the Annual Meeting or delivers a written revocation to the Secretary of Poage Bankshares, Inc. prior to the voting of such proxy. If you are a stockholder whose shares are not registered in your name, you will need appropriate documentation from your record holder to vote in person at the Annual Meeting.

#### VOTING SECURITIES AND PRINCIPAL HOLDERS

Except as otherwise noted below, holders of record of Poage Bankshares, Inc.'s shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, as of the close of business on December 28, 2012 are entitled to one vote for each share then held. As of December 28, 2012, there were 3,372,375 shares of common stock issued and outstanding.

#### **Principal Holders**

Persons and groups who beneficially own in excess of 5% of the shares of common stock are required to file certain reports with the Securities and Exchange Commission regarding such ownership. The following table sets forth, as of December 28, 2012, the shares of common stock beneficially owned by our directors and executive officers, individually and as a group, and by each person who was known to us as the beneficial owner of more than 5% of the outstanding shares of common stock. The mailing address for each of our directors and executive officers and the Home Federal Savings and Loan Association Employee Stock Ownership Plan is 1500 Carter Avenue, Ashland, Kentucky 41101.

Name and Address of Beneficial Owners	Amount of Sha Owned and Nat of Beneficial Ownership <sup>(1),</sup>	ture	Percent of Sl of Common S Outstandi	Stock
Five Percent Stockholders				
Home Federal Savings and Loan Association ESOP	269,790		8.00	%
Farley Capital II L.P. Labrador Partners L.P. Farley Associates II LLC Newfoundland Partners L.P. FA Newfoundland LLC Stephen Farley LLC Stephen L. Farley 780 Third Avenue, 31 <sup>st</sup> Floor New York, New York 10017	336,800	(3)	9.99	%
Joseph Stilwell Stilwell Partners, L.P. Stilwell Value LLC Stilwell Value Partners II, L.P. Stilwell Value Partners V, L.P. Stilwell Value Partners VII, L.P. 111 Broadway, 12 <sup>th</sup> Floor New York, New York 10006	315,371	(4)	9.40	%
Ithan Creek Master Investors (Cayman), L.P. Wellington Hedge Management, LLC c/o Wellington Management Company, LLP 280 Congress Street Boston, Massachusetts 02210	282,300	(5)	8.37	%
Directors and Executive Officers				
J. Thomas Rupert, Chairman of the Board Ralph E. Coffman, Jr., President and Chief	30,000	(6)		*
Executive Officer, Nominee Darryl E. Akers, Director <sup>(14)</sup>	2,250 1,387	(7) (8)		*
Robert S. Curtis, Director <sup>(14)</sup>	26,583	(9)		*
James W. King, Executive Vice President, Chief Information Officer and Secretary Jeffrey W. Clark, Chief Financial Officer	9,046 -	(10)	_	*
Miles R. Armentrout, Executive Vice President and Chief Credit Officer	_		_	
Thomas P. Carver, Director Everette B. Gevedon, Director	30,000 15,000	(11)		*
Stuart N. Moore, Director Charles W. Robinson, Director	31,800 30,000	(12) (13)		*

All directors and executive officers as a			
group (11 persons)	176,066	5.22	%

#### \* Less than 1%.

(1) In accordance with Rule 13d-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, a person is deemed to be the beneficial owner for purposes of this table, of any shares of common stock if he has shared voting or investment power with respect to such security, or has a right to acquire beneficial ownership at any time within 60 days from the date as of which beneficial ownership is being determined. As used herein, "voting power" is the power to vote or direct the voting of shares and "investment power" is the power to dispose or direct the disposition of shares, and includes all shares held directly as well as by spouses and minor children, in trust and other indirect ownership, over which shares the named individuals effectively exercise sole or shared voting or investment power.

- (2) As of the voting record date. An aggregate of 3,372 shares held in our employee stock ownership plan have been allocated to participant accounts. The trustee will vote the unallocated stock in proportion to the voting instructions received from plan participants with respect to the allocated shares.
- (3) Based on a Schedule 13G/A filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 14, 2012.
- (4) Based on a Schedule 13D/A filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 8, 2012.
- (5) Based on a Schedule 13G/A filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 14, 2012.
- (6) Includes 15,000 shares held by Mr. Rupert's wife, over which Mr. Rupert is deemed to have shared voting and dispositive power together with his wife.
- (7) Includes 1,250 shares held by an IRA for the benefit of Mr. Coffman.
- (8) Includes 387 shares held by our employee stock ownership plan.
- (9) Includes 16,190 shares held as Trustee of the Robert S. Curtis Trust, 10,000 shares held by Mr. Curtis' wife as Trustee of the Mary Susan Curtis Trust, 100 shares held by Mr. Curtis' wife, over which Mr. Curtis is deemed to have shared voting and dispositive power together with his wife, and 293 shares held by our employee stock ownership plan.
- (10) Includes 246 shares held by our employee stock ownership plan.
- (11) Includes 15,000 shares held by Mr. Carver's wife, over which Mr. Carver is deemed to have shared voting and dispositive power together with his wife.
- (12) Includes 15,000 shares held by Mr. Moore's wife, over which Mr. Moore is deemed to have shared voting and dispositive power together with his wife.
- (13) Includes 15,000 shares held by Mr. Robinson's wife, over which Mr. Robinson is deemed to have shared voting and dispositive power together with his wife.
- (14) Messrs. Akers and Curtis retired as Co-President and Co-Chief Executive Officers of Poage Bankshares, Inc. effective May 1, 2012. Since May 1, 2012 they have served as Executive Consultant to the President and the Board of Directors of Poage Bankshares, Inc. and Home Federal Savings and Loan Association.

#### Quorum

The presence in person or by proxy of a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock entitled to vote is necessary to constitute a quorum at the Annual Meeting. Abstentions and broker non-votes will be counted for purposes of determining that a quorum is present.

#### **Limitations on Voting**

In accordance with the provisions of our Articles of Incorporation, record holders of common stock who beneficially own in excess of 10% of the outstanding shares of common stock (the "Limit") are not entitled to any vote with respect to the shares held in excess of the Limit. Our Articles of Incorporation authorize the Board of Directors (i) to make all determinations necessary to implement and apply the Limit, including determining whether persons or entities are acting in concert, and (ii) to demand that any person who is reasonably believed to beneficially own stock in excess of the Limit supply information to us to enable the Board of Directors to implement and apply the Limit.

#### **Method of Counting Votes**

As to the election of directors, the Proxy Card being provided by the Board of Directors enables a stockholder to vote FOR ALL NOMINEES proposed by the Board, to WITHHOLD AUTHORITY FOR ALL NOMINEES or to vote FOR ALL EXCEPT one or more of the nominees being proposed. Directors are elected by a plurality of votes cast, without regard to either broker non-votes or proxies as to which the authority to vote for the nominees being proposed is withheld. Plurality means that individuals who receive the highest number of votes cast are elected, up to the maximum number of directors to be elected at the annual meeting.

In voting on the advisory, non-binding resolution with respect to our executive compensation, a stockholder may: (i) vote FOR the proposal; (ii) vote AGAINST the proposal; or (iii) ABSTAIN from voting on the proposal. To

approve the proposal, the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast on the matter at the Annual Meeting is required. While this vote is required by law, it will neither be binding on us or the Board of Directors, nor will it create or imply any change in the fiduciary duties of, or impose any additional fiduciary duty on us or the Board of Directors.

In voting on the advisory, non-binding resolution with respect to the frequency that stockholders will vote on our executive compensation, a stockholder may select that stockholders: (i) consider the proposal every "1 YEAR"; (ii) consider the proposal every "2 YEARS"; (iii) consider the proposal every "3 YEARS"; or (iv) "ABSTAIN" from voting on the proposal. Generally, approval of any matter presented to stockholders requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast on the matter. However, because this vote is advisory and non-binding, if none of the frequency options receive a majority of the votes cast, the option receiving the greatest number of votes will be considered the frequency recommended by our stockholders. Even though this vote will neither be binding on us or the Board of Directors, nor will it create or imply any change in the fiduciary duties of, or impose any additional fiduciary duty on us or the Board of Directors, the Board of Directors will take into account the outcome of this vote in making a determination on the frequency that advisory votes on executive compensation will be included in our proxy statements.

As to the approval of the Poage Bankshares, Inc. 2013 Equity Incentive Plan (the "Plan"), a stockholder may (i) vote FOR the approval of the Plan; (ii) vote AGAINST the approval of the Plan; or (iii) ABSTAIN from voting on the approval of the Plan. Approval of the Plan requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast on the matter at the Annual Meeting. Shares as to which the "ABSTAIN" box has been selected on the proxy card will be treated as represented at the Annual Meeting and entitled to be voted, and will have the same effect as a vote against approval of the Plan. Broker non-votes are not entitled to vote on the matter and, accordingly, will have no effect on the outcome of the vote.

As to the ratification of the appointment of Crowe Horwath LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm, by checking the appropriate box, a stockholder may: (i) vote FOR the ratification; (ii) vote AGAINST the ratification; or (iii) ABSTAIN from voting on such ratification. The affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast on the matter at the Annual Meeting is required for the ratification of Crowe Horwath LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm for the year ending September 30, 2013. Shares as to which the "ABSTAIN" box has been selected on the proxy card will be counted as shares represented and entitled to vote, and will have the same effect as a vote against approval of the ratification. Broker non-votes are not entitled to vote on the matter and, accordingly, will have no effect on the outcome of the vote.

#### **PROPOSAL I-ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

Our Board of Directors is comprised of seven members. Our Bylaws provide that directors are divided into three classes, with one class of directors elected annually. Our directors are generally elected to serve for a three-year period and until their respective successors shall have been elected and shall qualify. Two directors will be elected at the Annual Meeting to serve for a three-year period and until their respective successors shall have been elected and shall qualify. The Nominating Committee of the Board of Directors has nominated the following persons to serve as directors for three-year terms: Ralph E. Coffman, Jr. and Everette B. Gevedon. Mr. Gevedon is currently a director of Poage Bankshares, Inc. and Mr. Coffman is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Poage Bankshare, Inc. and Home Federal Savings and Loan Association. The Board of Directors recommends a vote "FOR" the election of the nominees.

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The table below sets forth certain information regarding the nominees, the other current members of our Board of Directors, and executive officers who are not directors, including the terms of office of board members. It is intended that the proxies solicited on behalf of the Board of Directors (other than proxies in which the vote is withheld as to any nominee) will be voted at the Annual Meeting for the election of the proposed nominees. If a nominee is unable to serve, the shares represented by all such proxies will be voted for the election of such substitute as the Board of Directors may determine. At this time, the Board of Directors knows of no reason why any of the nominees might be unable to serve, if elected.

					Current
		Position(s) Held With		Director	Term
	Name	Poage Bankshares, Inc.	Age <sup>(1)</sup>	Since <sup>(2)</sup>	Expires
		NOMINEES			
Ralph E. Coffman, Jr.		President and Chief Executive Officer	60	-	-
Everette B. Gevedon		Director	54	1998	2013
	СО	NTINUING DIRECTORS			
Stuart N. Moore		Director	55	2005	2014
Charles W. Robinson		Director	66	1996	2014
J. Thomas Rupert		Chairman of the Board	66	1981	2015
Darryl E. Akers		Director	60	1991	2015
Thomas P. Carver		Director	62	2006	2015
	EXECUTIVE OF	FICERS WHO ARE NOT DIRECTORS			
Jeffrey W. Clark		Chief Financial Officer	54	N/A	N/A
Miles R. Armentrout		Executive Vice President and Chief Credit Officer	56	N/A	N/A
James W. King		Executive Vice President, Chief Information			
		Officer and Secretary <sup>(3)</sup>	54	N/A	N/A

(1) As of September 30, 2012.

(2) Includes service with Home Federal Savings and Loan Association and Poage Bankshares, Inc.

(3) Mr. King is currently a director of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association, and has served in that capacity since 1997. His current term as director of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association expires in 2013.

The biographies of each of the nominees, continuing board members and executive officers are set forth below. With respect to directors and nominees, the biographies also contain information regarding the person's business experience and the experiences, qualifications, attributes or skills that caused the Nominating Committee to determine that the person should serve as a director. Each director of Poage Bankshares, Inc. is also a director of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association, and, if elected, Mr. Coffman will also be appointed as a director of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association.

#### Directors

*Ralph E. Coffman, Jr.* is President and Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Coffman became President and Chief Executive Officer of Poage Bankshares, Inc. and Home Federal Savings and Loan Association in May, 2012. He has been employed in the community banking industry since 1971. Most recently, he served as President, Chief Operating Officer and Interim Chief Executive Officer of First Security Group, Chattanooga, Tennessee from 2010 to 2012, as President of State of Ohio total banking operations of WesBanco Bank, Cincinnati, Ohio from 2007 to 2009, and in a variety of positions, including President and Chief Executive Officer, Chief Administrative Officer and Area President and Branch Administrator at Oak Hill Financial, Inc., Jackson, Ohio, and its subsidiaries from 1996 to 2007. Mr. Coffman was selected to serve as a director because of his extensive experience in the banking industry in our market area provides a broad and unique perspective on the challenges facing our organization and our business strategies and operations, and because his involvement in community organizations and trade associations are beneficial to Home Federal Savings and Loan Association's lending operations.

*Darryl Akers* is a director. Mr. Akers was appointed to the board of directors of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association in 1991 and became President and Chief Executive Officer in 1997. He served in that role or as

Co-President and Co-Chief Executive Officer until his retirement in May, 2012. He was employed by Home Federal Savings and Loan Association from 1973 until 2012, and held several positions prior to being named President and Chief Executive Officer, including President, Vice President, Ioan officer and controller. Mr. Akers was selected to serve as a director of Poage Bankshares, Inc. because his extensive experience in a variety of roles at Home Federal Savings and Loan Association, including as senior Ioan officer, provides a broad and unique perspective on the challenges facing our organization and our business strategies and operations.

*J. Thomas Rupert* is Chairman of the Board of Directors. He has been a member of the board of directors of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association since 1981 and has served as Chairman of the Board since 2006. He retired as President of Kentucky-Rupert Insurance Agency, Inc., an independent insurance agency in Ashland, Kentucky, on December 31, 2010 after 15 years in that position. However, he continues to serve as a director of Kentucky-Rupert Insurance Agency. Mr. Rupert is a past board member of the Ashland Area Chamber of Commerce and is a member and past President of the Kiwanis Club of Ashland. Mr. Rupert was selected to serve as a director of Poage Bankshares, Inc. because his experience in insurance and financial services provides insight and perspective with respect to general business operations, as well as experience reviewing financial statements. Further, Mr. Rupert' s extensive business contacts derived from his senior positions with the area Chamber of Commerce and the Kiwanis Club of Ashland have been beneficial to Home Federal Savings and Loan Association's commercial loan operations.

*Thomas P. Carver* is a director. He is President of Light Express, Inc. (since 1997), Cascar Management & Leasing Corp. (since 1993) and Light Logistics, Inc. (since 1989). Mr. Carver has served as a director of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association since 2006, and was selected to serve as director of Poage Bankshares, Inc. because his extensive experience as president of several different businesses provides a broad and unique perspective on the challenges facing the senior management of our organization and our business strategies and operations.

*E. B. Gevedon, MD* is a director. He is President and Chief Executive Officer of Family Allergy Services, Inc., a position he has held for 23 years. Dr. Gevedon is a founding member and past Chairman of the Ashland Alliance, the new Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development serving a two-county area. He also served as Chairman of the City of Ashland' s Economic Development Board for five years. His other community service and business activities include current service on the Ashland City Park Board and the Boyd County Board of Health. Dr. Gevedon has previously served as Chairman of the Ashland Tourism Commission and as a board member of the Ashland Community College Foundation and the Highlands Museum and Discovery Center. Dr. Gevedon has served as a director of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association since 1998, was selected to serve as a director of Poage Bankshares, Inc. because his long experience as President and Chief Executive Officer of a small business provides insight to Home Federal as to the lending needs of owners and operators of small businesses in our market area. Further, his extensive experience on area economic development boards provides insight into economic conditions and business development projects within our market area, as well as contacts with area commercial loan prospects.

*Stuart N. Moore, DMD* is a director. He recently retired from dentistry after practicing for twenty-five years in the Ashland area. He is currently President of Jasmine Properties LLC, which owns and manages residential and commercial rental properties. Dr. Moore obtained his real estate sales license in 1993 and is employed by Robinson Realty. Dr. Moore has served on the board of directors of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association since 2005, and was selected to serve as a director of Poage Bankshares, Inc. because his knowledge of real estate value from construction, comparable sales and income approaches are helpful in evaluating loan approvals, as well as experience reviewing financial statements.

*Charles W. Robinson* is a director. He is a certified public accountant who has worked extensively with businesses operating in the Home Federal Savings and Loan Association community. Mr. Robinson has worked in public accounting since 1973. Mr. Robinson performed the audit of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association prior to becoming a director. Mr. Robinson has experience in real estate. Mr. Robinson has served as a director of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association since 1996, and was selected to serve as a director of Poage Bankshares, Inc. because his experience in public accounting and real estate provides a broad and unique perspective on the challenges facing our organization and our business strategies and operations, and because his experience as a certified public accountant provides unique insight into our financial accounting practices and procedures, financial reporting and our relationship with our auditors.

#### **Executive Officers Who Are Not Directors**

*Jeffrey W. Clark* was appointed Chief Financial Officer in September 2011 after serving as Senior Accountant of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association since July 2011. He previously served as Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Ohio River Bank, Ironton, Ohio since July 2007. Prior to his employment with Ohio River Bank, he served as Deputy Treasurer with the Lawrence County, Ohio Treasurers Office since March 2006. Prior to his employment with the County Treasurers Office, Mr. Clark served as Southeastern Ohio Market Area President for Classic Bank, Ashland, Kentucky since May 2003. Prior to this position, Mr. Clark served as Controller of First Federal Savings Bank of Ironton, Ohio since September 1986 and Chief Financial Officer of its holding company, First Federal Financial Bancorp of Ironton, Ohio, since 1996.

*Miles R. Armentrout*, was appointed Executive Vice President and Chief Credit Officer of Poage Bankshares, Inc. and Home Federal Savings and Loan Association in June 2012. He previously served as Senior Vice President and Senior Loan Officer of Farmers and Merchants Bank, Miamisburg, Ohio since 2011. Prior to his employment with Farmers and Merchants Bank, he served as Executive Vice President and Senior Commercial Banking Officer with WesBanco Bank, Wheeling, West Virginia since 2007 and Executive Vice President and Chief Lending Officer for Oak Hill Banks, Jackson, Ohio since 2005. Prior to this position, he served as Regional President for the Western Ohio markets since 2003 and Senior Vice President and Senior Loan Officer of Oak Hill subsidiary bank, Towne Bank, Cincinnati, Ohio since 2001. Mr. Armentrout served as Regional Executive of Sky Bank, Bowling Green, Ohio since 1999 and as a Vice President and Commercial Loan Officer for Mid-American Bank and Trust Company, Bowling Green, Ohio since 1993. Prior to that position, he served in various lending management and commercial lending positions with Farmers Banking Company, Lakeview, Ohio and BancOhio National Bank, Columbus, Ohio since 1978.

*James W. King* currently serves as Executive Vice President, Chief Information Officer and Secretary, and as a member of the board of directors of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association. Mr. King was appointed to the board of directors of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association in 1997. Mr. King has been employed by Home Federal Savings and Loan Association since 1983, and has held several positions prior to being named Executive Vice President in 1997 and adding the title of Chief Information Officer in 2010. Mr. King was selected to serve as a director of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association because his experience in a variety of roles at Home Federal Savings and Loan Association provides perspective on the challenges facing our organization and our business strategies and operations.

#### **Board Independence**

The Board of Directors has determined that each of Poage Bankshares, Inc.'s directors, with the exception of Messrs. Akers and Coffman, is "independent" as defined in Rule 4200(a)(15) of the listing standards of the NASDAQ Stock Market. Mr. Akers is not independent by virtue of his employment as Co-President and Co-Chief Executive Officer within the past three years, and Mr. Coffman is not independent by virtue of his current employment as President and Chief Executive Officer.

#### **Board Leadership Structure and Risk Oversight**

To assure effective and independent oversight of management, the Board of Directors separated the roles of Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board in recognition of the differences between these two roles in management of the Company. The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for setting the strategic direction for the Company and the day-to-day leadership and performance of the Company, while the Chairman of the Board provides guidance to the Chief Executive Officer, sets the agenda for Board meetings and presides over meetings of the full Board. The Chairman of the Board is an independent, non-management role. In addition, to minimize the risk involved with having our President and Chief Executive Officer serve on the Board of Directors, the independent directors meet in executive sessions periodically to discuss certain matters such as our independent audit and internal controls. We believe our structure is appropriate given the relatively small size and simple operating philosophy of our organization.

The Board of Directors is actively involved in oversight of risks that could affect Poage Bankshares, Inc. This oversight is conducted in part through committees of the Board of Directors, but the full Board of Directors has retained responsibility for general oversight of risks. The Board of Directors satisfies this responsibility through full reports by each committee chair regarding the committee's considerations and actions, as well as through regular reports directly from officers responsible for oversight of particular risks within Poage Bankshares, Inc. and Home Federal Savings and Loan Association, as well as through internal and external audits. Risks relating to the direct operations of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association are further overseen by the Board of Directors of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association also has additional committees that conduct risk oversight separate from Poage Bankshares, Inc. Further, the Board of Directors oversees risks through the establishment of policies and procedures that are designed to guide daily operations in a manner consistent with applicable laws, regulations and risks acceptable to the organization.

#### **References to our Website Address**

References to our website address throughout this proxy statement and the accompanying materials are for informational purposes only, or to fulfill specific disclosure requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules. These references are not intended to, and do not, incorporate the contents of our website by reference into this proxy statement or the accompanying materials.

#### Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Our executive officers and directors and beneficial owners of greater than 10% of the outstanding shares of common stock are required to file reports with the Securities and Exchange Commission disclosing beneficial ownership and changes in beneficial ownership of our common stock. Securities and Exchange Commission rules require disclosure if an executive officer, director or 10% beneficial owner fails to file these reports on a timely basis. Based on our review of ownership reports required to be filed for the year ended September 30, 2012, no executive officer, director or 10% beneficial owner of our shares of common stock failed to file ownership reports on a timely basis.

#### **Code of Ethics**

Poage Bankshares, Inc. has adopted a Code of Ethics that is applicable to its senior financial officers, including the principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer and all officers performing similar functions. We have posted this Code of Ethics on our Internet website at <u>www.hfsl.com</u>.

#### Attendance at Annual Meetings of Stockholders

Poage Bankshares, Inc. does not have a written policy regarding director attendance at annual meetings of stockholders, although directors are expected to attend these meetings absent unavoidable scheduling conflicts.

#### **Communications with the Board of Directors**

Any stockholder who wishes to contact our Board of Directors or an individual director may do so by writing to: Poage Bankshares, Inc., 1500 Carter Avenue, Ashland, Kentucky 41101, Attention: Secretary. The letter should indicate that the sender is a stockholder and if shares are not held of record, should include appropriate evidence of stock ownership. Communications are reviewed by the Secretary and are then distributed to the Board of Directors or the individual director, as appropriate, depending on the facts and circumstances outlined in the communications received. The Secretary may attempt to handle an inquiry directly or forward a communication for response by the director or directors to whom it is addressed. The Secretary has the authority not to forward a communication if it is primarily commercial in nature, relates to an improper or irrelevant topic, or is unduly hostile, threatening, illegal or otherwise inappropriate.

#### Meetings and Committees of the Board of Directors

The business of Poage Bankshares, Inc. is conducted at regular and special meetings of the Board of Directors and its committees. In addition, the "independent" members of the Board of Directors (as defined in the listing standards of the NASDAQ Stock Market) meet in executive sessions. The standing committees of the Board of Directors of Poage Bankshares, Inc. are the Audit, Compensation and Nominating Committees.

The Board of Directors met at eight regular meetings and one special meeting during the year ended September 30, 2012. No member of the Board of Directors or any committee thereof attended fewer than 75% of the aggregate of: (i) the total number of meetings of the Board of Directors (held during the period for which he has been a director); and (ii) the total number of meetings held by all committees on which he served (during the periods that he served).

*Audit Committee.* The Audit Committee is comprised of Directors Rupert, Carver, Gevedon, Moore and Robinson, each of whom is "independent" in accordance with applicable SEC rules and Nasdaq listing standards. Mr. Robinson serves as chair of the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee also serves as the audit committee of the board of directors of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association. The Board of Directors has determined that Mr. Robinson qualifies as an "audit committee financial expert" as defined under applicable SEC rules because Mr. Robinson is a certified public accountant and has nearly 40 years of public accounting experience. In addition, each Audit Committee member has the ability to analyze and evaluate our financial statements as well as an understanding of the Audit Committee's functions. In addition, each Audit Committee member has overseen and assessed the finances and financial reporting of various businesses that they own or with which they have been employed.

Our Board of Directors has adopted a written charter for the Audit Committee, which is available on our Internet website at <u>www.hfsl.com</u>. As more fully described in the Audit Committee Charter, the Audit Committee reviews the financial records and affairs of Poage Bankshares, Inc. and monitors adherence in accounting and financial reporting to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The Audit Committee met five times during the year ended September 30, 2012.

*Nominating Committee.* The Nominating Committee is comprised of Directors Rupert, Carver, Gevedon, Moore and Robinson, each of whom is independent in accordance with applicable SEC rules and Nasdaq listing standards. Mr. Gevedon serves as chair of the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee also serves as the nominating committee of the board of directors of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association. The Nominating Committee operates under a written charter which is available on our Internet website at <u>www.hfsl.com</u>. The Nominating Committee met four times during the year ended September 30, 2012.

The Nominating Committee does not have a formal policy or specific guidelines regarding diversity among board members. However, the Nominating Committee seeks members who represent a mix of backgrounds that will reflect the diversity of our stockholders, employees, and customers, and experiences that will enhance the quality of the Board of Directors' deliberations and decisions. As the holding company for a community bank, the Nominating Committee also seeks directors who can continue to strengthen Home Federal Savings and Loan Association's position in its community and can assist Home Federal Savings and Loan Association with business development through business and other community contacts. The Nominating Committee considers the following criteria in evaluating and selecting candidates for nomination:

the extent to which the candidate would contribute to the range of talent, skill and expertise appropriate for the Board of Directors;

the candidate's relevant financial, regulatory and business experience and skills, including knowledge of the banking and financial services industries, familiarity with the operations of public companies and the ability to read and understand financial statements;

the candidate's familiarity with the Poage Bankshares, Inc.'s market areas, participation in local business, civic, or charitable organizations, and ties to local businesses;

the candidate' s personal and professional integrity, honesty and reputation;

the candidate's ability to represent the best interests of Poage Bankshares, Inc. and its stockholders, including potential for conflicts of interest with the candidate's other endeavors;

the candidate's ability to devote sufficient time and energy to perform his or her duties, including the ability to attend meetings;

whether or not the candidate would be independent under applicable SEC rules and Nasdaq listing standards for purposes of service on the Board of Directors or on any particular committee; and

any other factors that the Nominating Committee deems relevant to a candidate's nomination, including the extent to which the candidate helps the Board of Directors reflect the diversity of Poage Bankshares, Inc.'s stockholders, employees, customers and communities, the current composition and size of the Board of Directors, the balance of management and independent directors.

The Nominating Committee identifies nominees by first evaluating the current members of the Board of Directors willing to continue in service, including the current members' s board and committee attendance and performance, length of board service, experience and contributions, and independence. Current members of the Board of Directors with skills and experience that are relevant to Poage Bankshares, Inc.' s business and who are willing to continue in service are considered for re-nomination, balancing the value of continuity of service by existing members of the board with that of obtaining a new perspective. If there is a vacancy on the Board of Directors because any member of the Board of Directors does not wish to continue in service or if the Nominating Committee decides not to re-nominate a member for re-election, the Nominating Committee would determine the desired skills and experience of a new nominee (including a review of the skills set forth above), may solicit suggestions for director candidates from all board members and may engage in other search activities.

In accordance with our Bylaws, a person is not eligible for election or appointment to the Board of Directors: (a) if such person has been the subject of supervisory action by a financial regulatory agency that resulted in a cease and desist order or an agreement or other written statement subject to public disclosure under 12 U.S.C. §1818(u), or any successor provision; (b) if such person has been convicted of a crime involving dishonesty or breach of trust which is punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year under state or federal law; (c) if such person is currently charged in any information, indictment, or other complaint with the commission of or participation in such a crime; or (d) if such person did not, at the time of his first election or appointment to the Board of Directors maintain his principal residence within ten miles of an office of Poage Bankshares, Inc. or any subsidiary thereof for a period of at least one year prior to the date of his purported election or appointment to the Board of Directors, provided that clause (d) shall not apply to full time employees of Poage Bankshares. Inc. or any of its subsidiaries. No person may serve on the Board of Directors and at the same time be a director or officer of a co-operative bank, credit union, savings bank, savings and loan association, trust company, bank holding company or banking association (in each case whether chartered by a state, the federal government or any other jurisdiction), other than of a subsidiary of the Corporation, that engages in business activities or solicits customers, whether through a physical presence or electronically, in the same market area as the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries. No person shall be eligible for election or appointment to the Board of Directors if such person is the nominee or representative, as that term is defined in the regulations of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 12 C.F.R §212.2(n), of a company the directors, partners, trustees or 10% stockholders of which would not be eligible for election or appointment to the Board of Directors under the foregoing restrictions. The Board of Directors shall have the power to construe and apply foregoing restrictions and to make all determinations necessary or desirable to implement such provisions, including but not limited to determinations as to whether a person is a nominee or representative of a person, a company or a group, whether a person or company is included in a group, and whether a person is the nominee or representative of a group acting in concert. In addition, no person may serve on the Board of Directors beyond the annual meeting of stockholders immediately following such person's 70th birthday.

During the year ended September 30, 2012 we did not pay a fee to any third party to identify or evaluate or assist in identifying or evaluating potential nominees for director.

The Nominating Committee may consider qualified candidates for director suggested by our stockholders. Stockholders can suggest qualified candidates for director by writing to our Secretary at 1500 Carter Avenue, Ashland, Kentucky 41101. In order for the Nominating Committee to consider a candidate suggested by a stockholder, the Secretary must receive a submission not less than 150 days prior to the anniversary of the prior year's annual meeting. The submission must include the following:

the name, age, personal and business address of the candidate, the principal occupation or employment of the candidate;

a statement of the candidate' s business and educational experience;

such other information regarding the candidate as would be required to be included in Poage Bankshares, Inc.' s proxy statement pursuant to Securities and Exchange Commission Regulation 14A;

the candidate's written consent to serve as a director;

a statement that the writer is a stockholder and is proposing a candidate for consideration by the Nominating Committee;

the name and address of the stockholder, and the number of shares of Poage Bankshares, Inc.' s common stock that are held of record by such stockholder; and

a statement disclosing whether the stockholder is acting with or on behalf of any other person, and, if applicable, the identity of such other person.

Submissions that are received and that satisfy the above requirements are forwarded to the Nominating Committee for further review and consideration, using the same criteria to evaluate the candidate as it uses for evaluating other candidates that it considers.

*Compensation Committee.* The Compensation Committee is comprised of Messrs. Rupert, Carver, Gevedon, Moore and Robinson, each of whom is independent in accordance with applicable SEC rules and Nasdaq listing standards. Mr. Carver serves as chair of the Compensation Committee. No member of the Compensation Committee is a current or former officer or employee of Poage Bankshares, Inc. or Home Federal Savings and Loan Association. The Compensation Committee also serves as the compensation committee of the board of directors of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association. The Compensation Committee met four times during the year ended September 30, 2012.

The Compensation Committee is responsible for establishing the compensation philosophy, developing compensation guidelines, establishing (or recommend to the entire Board of Directors) the compensation of the Chief Executive Officer and the other senior executive officers. No executive officer who is also a director participates with respect to decisions on his compensation. The Compensation Committee will also administer any stock-based incentive or compensation plan that Poage Bankshares, Inc. may adopt in the future. The Compensation Committee may retain, at its discretion, compensation consultants to assist it in making compensation related decisions.

The Compensation Committee operates under a written charter which is available on our Internet website at <u>www.hfsl.com</u>. This charter sets forth the responsibilities of the Compensation Committee and reflects the Compensation Committee's commitment to create a compensation structure that not only compensates senior management but also aligns the interests of senior management with those of our stockholders.

Our goal is to determine appropriate compensation levels that will enable us to meet the following objectives:

to attract, retain and motivate an experienced, competent executive management team;

to reward the executive management team for the enhancement of stockholder value based on our annual earnings performance and the market price of our stock;

to provide compensation rewards that are adequately balanced between short-term and long-term performance goals;

to encourage ownership of our common stock through stock-based compensation to all levels of management; and

to maintain compensation levels that are competitive with other financial institutions, particularly those in our peer group based on asset size and market area.

The Compensation Committee considers a number of factors in their decisions regarding executive compensation, including, but not limited to, the level of responsibility and performance of the individual executive officers, the overall performance of Poage Bankshares, Inc. and a peer group analysis of compensation paid at institutions of comparable size and complexity. The Compensation Committee also considers the recommendations of the Chief Executive Officer with respect to the compensation of executive officers other than the Chief Executive Officer.

The base salary levels for our executive officers are set to reflect the duties and levels of responsibilities inherent in the position and to reflect competitive conditions in the banking business in Poage Bankshares, Inc.' s market area. Comparative salaries paid by other financial institutions are considered in establishing the salary for our executive officers. The Compensation Committee has utilized bank compensation surveys compiled by the America Bankers Association as well as other surveys prepared by trade groups and independent benefit consultants. In setting the base salaries, the Compensation Committee also considers a number of factors relating to the executive officers, including individual performance, job responsibilities, experience level, ability and the knowledge of the position. These factors are considered subjectively and none of the factors are accorded a specific weight.]

#### **Audit Committee Report**

The Audit Committee has issued a report that states as follows:

We have reviewed and discussed with management our audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended September 30, 2012;

We have discussed with the independent registered public accounting firm the matters required to be discussed by Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61, "Communication With Audit Committees" as amended; and

We have received the written disclosures and the letter from the independent registered public accounting firm required by PCAOB Rule 3526, "Communication with Audit Committees Concerning Independence," and have discussed with the independent registered public accounting firm their independence.

Based on the review and discussions referred to above, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the audited consolidated financial statements be included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended September 30, 2012 for filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

This report shall not be deemed incorporated by reference by any general statement incorporating by reference this proxy statement into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, except to the extent that Poage Bankshares, Inc. specifically incorporates this information by reference, and shall not otherwise be deemed filed under such Acts.

This report has been provided by the Audit Committee:

Charles W. Robinson, Chair J. Thomas Rupert Thomas P. Carver Everette B. Gevedon Stuart N. Moore

#### **Transactions With Certain Related Persons**

*Loans and Extensions of Credit.* Federal law requires that all loans or extensions of credit to executive officers and directors must be made on substantially the same terms, including interest rates and collateral, as those prevailing at the time for comparable transactions with the general public and must not involve more than the normal risk of repayment or present other unfavorable features. Federal regulations adopted under this law permit executive officers and directors to receive the same terms that are widely available to other employees as long as the director or executive officer is not given preferential treatment compared to the other participating employees. Loans to executive officers must be approved by the full Board of Directors regardless of amounts.

Home Federal Savings and Loan Association makes loans to its directors, executive officers and employees through an employee loan program. The program applies only to first or second mortgage loans on a primary or secondary residence. Home Federal waives the \$175 loan processing fee for loans made under the employee loan program. Except for the waived loan processing fee, these loans were made in the ordinary course of business, were made on substantially the same terms, including interest rates and collateral, as those prevailing at the time for comparable transactions with other persons and did not involve more than the normal risk of collectability or present other unfavorable features.

The following table sets forth loans made by Home Federal Savings and Loan Association to its directors and executive officers where the largest amount of all indebtedness outstanding during the years ended September 30, 2012 and 2011, and all amounts of interest payable during each year, respectively, exceeded \$120,000, and where the borrowers received reduced origination fees, as described above.

Name	Type of Loan	Largest Aggregate Balance from October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012	Interest Rate on September 2 2012		Principal balance on September 30, 2012	Amount of Principal Paid from October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012	Amount of Interest Paid from October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012
Stuart N. Moore	Mortgage on second	¢ 240.000	2 000	0/	¢ 225 0(5	¢ 14.025	¢ 5 220
Domed E. Altona	home	\$ 240,000 \$ 206,500	2.990	%	\$225,065	\$ 14,935 \$	\$ 5,239 \$ -
Darryl E. Akers	Personal home loan <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 306,500	3.625	%	\$ <i>-</i>	\$ -	2 -
Darryl E. Akers	Home equity line/						
	second mtg	\$ 24,371	3.625	%	\$22,306	\$ 2,065	\$ 1,158
Darryl E. Akers	Personal auto loan	\$ 10,000	3.500	%	\$ 8,353	\$ 1,647	\$ 113
James W. King	Personal home loan	\$ 147,861	5.000	%	\$143,147	\$ 4,714	\$ 7,286
Ralph E. Coffman, Jr.	Construction loan for residence	\$ 295,871	6.000	%	\$295,871	\$ -	\$ 211

(1) The loan to Mr. Akers was a refinance of a previously existing loan. This loan was extended to Mr. Akers on July 2, 2012, and subsequently sold to the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati on July 16, 2012.

		Largest Aggregate Balance from October 1, 2010 to September 30,	Interest Rate on September 3		Principal balance on September 30,	Amount of Principal Paid from October 1, 2010 to September 30,	Amount of Interest Paid from October 1, 2010 to September 30,
Name	Type of Loan	2011	2011		2011	2011	2011
Stuart N. Moore	Mortgage on second						
	home	\$ 655,155	5.500	%	\$254,071	\$ 401,084	\$ 21,965
Darryl E. Akers	Personal home loan	\$ 311,908	6.250	%	<b>\$</b> -	\$ 621,908	\$ 12,790
Darryl E. Akers	Home equity line/						
	second mtg	\$ 25,500	5.125	%	\$24,371	\$ 13,771	\$ 879
James W. King	Personal home loan	\$ 152,346	5.000	%	\$147,861	\$ 4,485	\$ 7,515
James W. King	Personal auto loan	\$ 20,798	6.250	%	<b>\$</b> -	\$ 20,998	\$ 386

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#### **Executive Officer Compensation**

*Summary Compensation Table.* The table below summarizes for the years ended September 30, 2012 and September 30, 2011 the total compensation paid to or earned by our President and Chief Executive Officer, Executive Vice President and Chief Information Officer and our two other most highly compensated individuals. Each individual listed in the table below is referred to as a named executive officer.

				All other	
		Salary	Bonus	compensation <sup>(3)</sup>	Total
Name and principal position	Year	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Ralph E. Coffman, Jr. <sup>(1)</sup> President and Chief Executive Officer	2012	74,700	-	24,854	99,554
Tresident and Chief Executive Officer					
Darryl E. Akers <sup>(2)</sup>	2012	140,000	12,000	57,061	209,061
Executive Consultant to the President	2011	138,650	30,000	58,773	227,423
Robert S. Curtis <sup>(2)</sup>	2012	140,000	12,000	25,120	177,120
Executive Consultant to the President	2011	129,782	30,000	12,600	192,265
James W. King	2012	95,419	12,000	69,200	176,619
Executive Vice President and Chief Information Officer	2011	92,146	30,000	70,119	172,382

(1) Mr. Coffman was hired on May 1, 2012.

(2) On May 1, 2012, each of Messrs. Akers and Curtis ceased serving as Co-President and Co-Chief Executive Officer and began serving as an Executive Consultant to the President and the Board of Directors.

(3) For 2012, the amounts in this column reflect what Home Federal Savings and Loan Association paid for, or reimbursed, the applicable named executive officer for the various benefits and perquisites received as follows:

	Board			Employer			
	and	Housing		Contributions			Total All
	Other	Relocation	Auto	to Profit	Life	Appraisal	Other
	Fees <sup>(1)</sup>	Assistance <sup>(2)</sup>	Expenses <sup>(3)</sup>	Sharing Plan	Insurance <sup>(4)</sup>	Fees <sup>(5)</sup>	Compensation
Name	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Ralph E. Coffman, Jr.	7,000	15,804	2,050	_	-	-	24,854
Darryl E. Akers	20,800	-	-	_	36,261	-	57,061
Robert S. Curtis	20,800	-	-	4,320	-	-	25,120
James W. King	18,200	_	_	-	13,700	37,300	69,200

(1) Represents fees paid for service on the Board of Directors of Poage Bankshares, Inc. and the Board of Directors of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association. Messrs Coffman and King ceased to receive Board fees effective June 29, 2012.

(2) Represents amounts paid to reimburse Mr. Coffman for housing relocation expenses in connection with his hire.

(3) Represents amount paid to Mr. Coffman for his use of an automobile.

- (4) Amounts in this column reflect imputed income from life insurance premiums paid by Home Federal Savings and Loan Association.
- (5) Represents fees paid to Mr. King for appraisal services provided on real estate properties securing loans made by Home Federal Savings and Loan Association.

#### **Benefit Plans and Agreements**

*Employment Agreement.* Home Federal Savings and Loan Association entered into an employment agreement with Ralph E. Coffman, Jr. effective as of May 1, 2012. The agreement has an initial term of three years. Commencing on the first anniversary of the agreement and on each subsequent anniversary thereafter, the agreement will be renewed for an additional year so that the remaining term will be three years, unless a notice is provided to the executive that the agreement will not renew. The current base salary for

Mr. Coffman is \$203,200. In addition to the base salary, the agreement provides for, among other things, participation in bonus programs and other fringe

benefit plans applicable to executive employees, including automobile and social membership benefits. The executive's employment may be terminated for cause at any time, in which event the executive would have no right to receive compensation or other benefits for any period after termination.

Certain events resulting in the executive's termination or resignation entitle the executive to payments of severance benefits following termination of employment. In the event of the executive's involuntary termination for reasons other than for cause, disability or retirement, or in the event the executive resigns during the term of the agreement following (a) failure to appoint the executive to the executive position set forth in the agreement, (b) a material change in the executive's function, duties or responsibilities resulting in a reduction of the responsibility, scope, or importance of executive's position, (c) relocation of the executive's office by more than 20 miles, (d) a material reduction in the benefits or perquisites paid to the executive unless such reduction is part of a reduction that is generally applicable to officers or employees of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association, or (e) a material breach of the employment agreement by Home Federal Savings and Loan Association, then the executive would be entitled to a severance payment in the form of a cash lump sum equal to (a) one (1) times the sum of (i) the highest rate of base salary paid to the executive at any time, and (ii) the highest bonus paid to the executive with respect to the three (3) completed fiscal years prior to the date of termination. Internal Revenue Code Section 409A may require that a portion of the above payments cannot be made until six months after termination of employment, if the executive is a "key employee" under IRS rules. In addition, the executive would be entitled, at no expense to the executive, to the continuation of life insurance and non-taxable medical and dental coverage for one (1) year.

In the event of a change in control of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association or Poage Bankshares, Inc., followed by executive's involuntary termination other than for cause, disability or retirement, or resignation for one of the reasons set forth above within 18 months thereafter, the executive would be entitled to a severance payment in the form of a cash lump sum equal to (a) three (3) times the sum of (i) the highest rate of base salary paid to the executive at any time, and (ii) the highest bonus paid to the executive with respect to the three (3) completed fiscal years prior to the change of control. In addition, the executive would be entitled, at no expense to the executive, to the continuation of life insurance and non-taxable medical and dental coverage for thirty-six (36) months following the termination of employment. In the event payments made to the executive include an "excess parachute payment" as defined in Section 280G of the Internal Revenue Code, such payments will be cutback by the minimum dollar amount necessary to avoid this result.

Upon termination of the executive's employment, the executive shall be subject to certain restrictions on his ability to compete, or to solicit business or employees of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association and Poage Bankshares, Inc. for a period of one year following termination of employment. This restriction will not apply if the executive's termination of employment occurs after a change in control of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association or Poage Bankshares, Inc.

*Change in Control Agreements.* On September 12, 2011, Home Federal Savings and Loan Association entered into change in control agreements with Darryl E. Akers, Robert S. Curtis and James W. King. The change in control agreements provide a benefit in the event of an involuntary termination of employment or resignation for good reason following a change in control. The agreements define good reason as:

the failure to appoint the executive to his executive position (as defined in the agreement);

a material change in the executive's position to become one of lesser responsibility, importance or scope than the position the executive held immediately prior to the change in control;

the relocation of the executive's principal place of employment by more than 30 miles from its location as of the date of the agreement;

a material reduction in the executive's base salary and benefits; or

the liquidation or dissolution of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association, other than a liquidation or dissolution caused by reorganizations that do not affect the status of the executive.

The severance payment is an amount equal to three times the sum of the executive's base salary and the highest bonus earned during the prior three years, payable in a lump sum, and the continuation of non-taxable medical and dental coverage for a three-year period. The amount of the payment to be made in connection with a change in control will be reduced, if necessary, to an amount that is \$1.00 less than the amount that would otherwise be an "excess parachute payment" under Section 280G of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Section 280G Limit"). Should Messrs. Akers, Curtis and King have their employment terminated in connection with a change in control as of September 30, 2012, Messrs. Akers, Curtis and King would receive a maximum cash severance payment of approximately \$510,000, \$510,000, and \$444,600, respectively, based upon their current level of compensation, and such amounts may be reduced pursuant to each executive's Section 280G Limit.

*Executive Supplemental Retirement Plans.* Home Federal Savings and Loan Association has purchased insurance policies on the lives of Messrs. Akers and King and has entered into an Executive Supplemental Retirement Plan (the "Plan") with each of Messrs. Akers and King. The insurance policies are owned by Home Federal Savings and Loan Association, which paid each premium due on the policies in a single lump sum. The amount of the premiums paid for the life insurance policies was \$1,058,635 and \$365,405, respectively, on behalf of Messrs. Akers and King. Under the Executive Supplemental Retirement Plans, upon an executive's death while he was employed, the executive's beneficiary will be paid a death benefit equal to the executive's Pre-Retirement Account, as defined in the Plan. In the event of the executives' deaths as of September 30, 2012, the beneficiaries of Messrs. Akers and King would receive a death benefit of approximately \$432,744, and \$160,833, respectively.

In the event an executive remains in the employment of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association until normal retirement age (age 65), he shall receive the balance in the Pre-Retirement Account in 240 equal monthly installments commencing 30 days following the date of the executive's retirement. In the event an executive terminates employment following a change in control, then the executive shall receive the benefits as if the executive had attained normal retirement age. In the event of a termination of employment following a change in control as of September 30, 2012, Messrs. Akers and King would receive, beginning at normal retirement age (as defined in the agreement), an estimated monthly benefit of \$5,817 and \$3,981, respectively, which would be payable for 240 months.

*Retention and Non-Competition Agreement with Robert S. Curtis.* Home Federal Savings and Loan Association has entered into a Retention and Non-Competition Agreement with Mr. Curtis in order to encourage the executive to remain as a full-time executive officer until he attains age 65. If the executive terminates employment prior to age 64, other than due to disability or death, the executive will not receive any cash payment under the agreement. Since the executive intends to terminate employment on December 31, 2012 and before he attains age 64, he will not be entitled to any benefits under this agreement.

*Non-Competition, Consulting and Health Insurance Agreement with Robert S. Curtis.* Home Federal Savings and Loan Association has entered into a Non-Competition, Consulting and Health Insurance Agreement with Mr. Curtis pursuant to which Mr. Curtis will perform consulting services following the date of his termination of employment and ending on the date the executive and his spouse qualify for Medicare. In addition, Mr. Curtis will agree not to compete in certain banking activities with Home Federal Savings and Loan Association and Poage Bankshares, Inc. during the term of the agreement for the benefit of any business within 20 miles of any office of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association. During such period, Mr. Curtis has also agreed not to solicit or offer employment to any employee of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association or Poage Bankshares, Inc. that would cause such person(s) to terminate employment and accept employment with or provide services to any business that competes with Home Federal Savings and Loan Association. In exchange for the consulting services and the agreement not to compete or solicit, Home Federal Savings and Loan Association has agreed to pay Mr. Curtis a commercially reasonable amount for his services as a consultant, which will be determined on the date of the executive's termination of employment, provide that such amount shall not exceed his salary, on a prorated basis, on the date of his termination. In addition, Home Federal Savings and Loan Association will provide Mr. Curtis and his spouse with non-taxable medical and dental coverage, with the executive and his spouse paying the employee share of such insurance premiums.

*Split Dollar Agreements.* Home Federal Savings and Loan Association has purchased insurance policies on the lives of Messrs. Akers and King, and Home Federal Savings and Loan Association has entered into endorsement Split Dollar Agreements with each of Messrs. Akers and King. The policies are owned by Home Federal Savings and Loan Association, which paid each premium due on the policies in a single lump sum. The amount of the premiums paid for the life insurance policies was \$1,058,635 and \$365,405, respectively, on behalf of Messrs. Akers and King. Under the Split Dollar Agreements, upon an executive's death while he is an executive of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association, the executive's beneficiary will be paid a death benefit equal to 80% of the total death proceeds of the life insurance policies minus the cash surrender value of the policies. In the event of the executive's deaths as of September 30, 2012, the beneficiaries of Messrs. Akers and King would receive a death benefit of \$1,090,103, and \$537,326, respectively.

In the event Mr. King dies after he terminated employment for any reason, including retirement, his beneficiary will be entitled to a reduced benefit, which will be determined based on the number of full years the executive has been employed since the date of hire. When Mr. King attains the age of 55, his beneficiary will be entitled to the full death benefit, as described above. Since Mr. Akers is over age 55, his beneficiary will be entitled to the full death benefit.

The Split Dollar Agreement may be terminated if the executive's employment is terminated for cause (as defined in the agreement) or upon Home Federal Savings and Loan Association's cancellation of the life insurance policies. Upon termination, the executive will have an option to purchase the insurance policies for an amount equal to the greater of the cash value of the policies or the amount of premiums paid by Home Federal Savings and Loan Association.

*401(k) Plan.* Home Federal Savings and Loan Association participates in the Pentegra Defined Contribution Plan for Financial Institutions, a tax-qualified defined contribution plan for eligible employees (the "401(k) Plan"). Employees who have completed two consecutive months of service and attained the age of 21 will be eligible to participate in the 401(k) Plan.

Under the 401(k) Plan, a participant may elect to defer, on a pre-tax basis, up to 75% of his or her salary in any plan year, subject to limits imposed by the Internal Revenue Code. For 2012, the salary deferral contribution limit is \$17,000, provided, however, that a participant over age 50 may contribute an additional \$5,500 to the 401(k) Plan. In addition, Home Federal Savings and Loan Association may elect to provide a discretionary employer contribution, which is shared among all eligible participants. A participant is always 100% vested in his or her salary deferral contributions and a participant will become 100% vested in employer discretionary contributions, if any, after completing three years of service. Generally, unless the participant elects otherwise, the participant's account balance will be distributed as a result of a participant' s termination of employment with Home Federal Savings and Loan Association.

*Defined Benefit Pension Plan.* Home Federal Savings and Loan Association participates in the Pentegra Defined Benefit Plan for Financial Institutions, a multi-employer pension plan (the "Pension Plan"). The Pension Plan covers all eligible employees meeting certain service and age requirements that were employed by Home Federal Savings and Loan Association prior to January 1, 2007. Effective January 1, 2007, Home Federal Savings and Loan Association amended the Pension Plan to provide that employees hired after December 31, 2006 would not be eligible to participate in the Pension Plan. Eligible employees hired before January 1, 2007 continue to earn benefits under the Pension Plan. During the year ended September 30, 2012, Home Federal Savings and Loan Association recognized \$729,565 as a pension expense.

*Employee Stock Ownership Plan.* In connection with the conversion, Home Federal Savings and Loan Association adopted an employee stock ownership plan for eligible employees. Eligible employees who have attained age 21 and completed one year of service will begin participation in the employee stock ownership plan on the later of the effective date of the conversion or upon the first entry date commencing on or after the eligible employee's completion of 1,000 hours of service during a continuous 12-month period.

The employee stock ownership plan trustee purchased, on behalf of the employee stock ownership plan, 269,790 shares of Poage Bankshares, Inc. common stock issued in the offering. The employee stock ownership plan funded its stock purchase with a \$2.7 million fully amortizing loan from Poage Bankshares, Inc., to be repaid over 20 years. The loan will be repaid principally through Home Federal Savings and Loan Association's contribution to the employee stock ownership plan and dividends payable on common stock held by the employee stock ownership plan over the 20-year term of the loan. The interest rate for the employee stock ownership plan loan is an adjustable rate equal to the prime rate, as published in *The Wall Street Journal*, on the closing date of the offering. Thereafter, the interest rate will adjust annually and will be the prime rate on the first business day of the calendar year, retroactive to January 1 of such year.

The trustee holds the shares purchased by the employee stock ownership plan in an unallocated suspense account, and shares will be released from the suspense account on a pro-rata basis as we repay the loan. The trustee will allocate the shares released among participants on the basis of each participant's proportional share of compensation relative to all participants. A participant will become 100% vested in his or her account balance after completing three years of service. Participants who were employed by Home Federal Savings and Loan Association immediately prior to the offering received credit for vesting purposes for years of service prior to adoption of the employee stock ownership plan. Participants also become fully vested automatically upon normal retirement, death or disability, a change in control, or termination of the employee stock ownership plan. Generally, participants will receive distributions from the employee stock ownership plan upon separation from service. The employee stock ownership plan reallocates any unvested shares forfeited upon termination of employment among the remaining participants.

The employee stock ownership plan permits participants to direct the trustee as to how to vote the shares of common stock allocated to their accounts. The trustee votes unallocated shares and allocated shares for which participants do not provide instructions on any matter in the same ratio as those shares for which participants provide instructions, subject to fulfillment of the trustee' s fiduciary responsibilities.

Under applicable accounting requirements, Home Federal Savings and Loan Association records a compensation expense for the employee stock ownership plan at the fair market value of the shares as they are committed to be released from the unallocated suspense account to participants' accounts, which may be more or less than the original issue price. The compensation expense resulting from the release of the common stock from the suspense account and allocation to plan participants results in a corresponding reduction in Poage Bankshares, Inc.' s earnings.

#### **Director Compensation**

The following table sets forth for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2012 certain information as to the total remuneration we paid to our directors other than to our named executive officers. Information with respect to director compensation paid to directors who are also named executive officers is included above in "-Executive Officer Compensation–Summary Compensation Table."

#### **Directors Compensation Table**

	Fees earned or paid in cash	All Other Compensation <sup>(1)</sup>	Total
Name	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Thomas P. Carver.	35,300	6,000	41,300
Everette B. Gevedon	35,300	7,396	42,696
Stuart N. Moore	35,300	8,032	43,332
Charles W. Robinson	35,300	8,589	43,889
J. Thomas Rupert	59,500	8,013	67,513

(1) The amounts in this column reflect a bonus in the amount of \$6,000 paid to each director and long term care insurance premiums paid by Home Federal Savings and Loan Association on behalf of each director.

#### **Director Fees**

Each person who serves as a director of Poage Bankshares, Inc. also serves as a director or advisory director of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association and earns director and committee fees only in his capacity as a director, advisory director or committee member of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association. Directors and advisory directors of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association do not receive any additional fees for service on the Board of Directors or any committee of the Board of Directors of Poage Bankshares, Inc.

Each director and advisory director of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association is paid a monthly meeting fee of \$1,400, except that Mr. Rupert receives \$2,500 as Chairman of the Board. Each non-employee director receives \$500 per committee meeting. Each non-employee director receives \$500 for each special meeting and employee directors receive \$500 for each special meeting only if it is held after regular office hours.

#### **Director Plans**

*Director Supplemental Retirement Plans.* Home Federal Savings and Loan Association has purchased insurance policies on the lives of Messrs. Carver, Gevedon, Moore, Robinson and Rupert and has entered into a Director Supplemental Retirement Plan (the "Plan") with each of Messrs. Carver, Gevedon, Moore, Robinson and Rupert. The insurance policies are owned by Home Federal Savings and Loan Association, which paid each premium due on the policies in a single lump sum. The amount of the premiums paid for the life insurance policies was \$220,000 \$60,845, \$121,000, \$115,504 and \$132,030, respectively, on behalf of Messrs. Carver, Gevedon, Moore, Robinson and Rupert. Under the Director Supplemental Retirement Plans, upon a director's death, the director's beneficiary will be paid a death benefit equal to the director's accrued liability retirement plan, as defined in the plan. In the event of the directors' deaths as of September 30, 2012, the beneficiaries of Messrs. Carver, Gevedon, Moore, Robinson and Rupert would receive a death benefit of approximately \$45,784, \$18,629, \$16,511, \$83,255 and \$85,241, respectively.

In the event Messrs. Carver, Gevedon, Moore, Robinson and Rupert remain in the service of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association until normal retirement age (age 70), each shall receive an annual benefit payable over thirteen years (fourteen years for Messrs. Robinson and Rupert) in monthly installments commencing thirty (30) days following the date of the director's retirement. In the event a director terminates employment following a change in control, then the director shall receive the benefits as if the director had attained normal retirement age. In the event of a termination of employment following a change in control as of September 30, 2012, Messrs. Carver, Gevedon, Moore, Robinson and Rupert would receive, beginning at normal retirement age (as defined in the plan), amounts specified in an exhibit to each director's agreement, which provides for different payment amounts in different years. The first year's payment amounts are \$13,327, \$12,921, \$8,655, \$11,832, and \$12,601, respectively, which would be payable for up to thirteen years (fourteen for Messrs. Robinson and Rupert).

#### PROPOSAL II-ADVISORY (NON-BINDING) VOTE ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The compensation of certain executive officers with respect to whom compensation is required to be disclosed pursuant to applicable Securities and Exchange Commission regulations (the "Named Executive Officers") is described above under "Executive Compensation." Stockholders are urged or read the "Executive Compensation" section of this Proxy Statement, which discusses our compensation policies and procedures with respect to our Named Executive Officers.

In accordance with recently adopted changes to Section 14A of the Exchange Act, stockholders are being asked at the Annual Meeting to provide their support with respect to the compensation of our Named Executive Officers by voting on the following advisory (non-binding) resolution:

"RESOLVED, that the stockholders of Poage Bankshares, Inc. approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the Company's named executive officers as described in the "Executive Compensation" section of the Proxy Statement."

This advisory vote, commonly known as a "say-on-pay" advisory vote, gives stockholders the opportunity to endorse or not endorse the Company's executive pay program. Although non-binding, the Board of Directors and the Compensation Committee value constructive dialogue with our stockholders on executive compensation and other important governance topics and encourage all stockholders to vote their shares on this matter. The Board of Directors and the Compensation Committee will review the voting results and take them into consideration when making future decisions regarding our executive compensation programs.

The Board of Directors recommends a vote "FOR" the approval of the advisory (non-binding) resolution.

#### PROPOSAL III-ADVISORY (NON-BINDING) VOTE ON THE FREQUENCY OF VOTING ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

In accordance with Section 14A of the Exchange Act, stockholders are being given the opportunity to vote on an advisory (non-binding) resolution at the Annual Meeting to approve the compensation of executive officers (the "say-on-pay" advisory vote in "Proposal II–Advisory (Non-Binding) Vote on Executive Compensation" above) this year and will do so at least once every three years thereafter. Pursuant to Section 14A of the Exchange Act, at the Annual Meeting, we are also asking stockholders to vote on whether future "say-on-pay" advisory votes on executive compensation should occur every year, every two years or every three years.

After careful consideration, the Board of Directors recommends that future stockholder "say-on-pay" advisory votes on executive compensation be conducted every year. The determination was based upon the premise that executive compensation is evaluated, adjusted and approved on an annual basis by the Board of Directors upon a recommendation from the Compensation Committee and the belief that investor sentiment should be a factor taken into consideration by the Compensation Committee in making its annual recommendation.

Although the Board of Directors recommends a "say-on-pay" vote every year, stockholders will be able to specify one of four choices for this proposal on the proxy card: 1 year, 2 years, 3 years or abstain. Stockholders are not voting to approve or disapprove the Board of Directors' recommendation.

The Board of Directors recommends a vote "FOR" the approval of the One Year option.

#### PROPOSAL IV–APPROVAL OF THE POAGE BANKSHARES, INC. 2013 EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN

The Board of Directors has adopted, subject to stockholder approval, the Poage Bankshares, Inc. 2013 Equity Incentive Plan (the "Equity Incentive Plan"), to provide officers, employees and directors of Poage Bankshares, Inc. and Home Federal Savings and Loan Association with additional incentives to promote the growth and performance of Poage Bankshares, Inc. Most of the companies that we compete with for directors and management-level employees are public companies that offer equity compensation as part of their overall director and officer compensation programs. By approving the Equity Incentive Plan, our stockholders will give us the flexibility we need to continue to attract and retain highly qualified officers and directors by offering a competitive compensation program that is linked to the performance of our common stock.

The following is a summary of the material features of the Equity Incentive Plan, which is qualified in its entirety by reference to the provisions of the Equity Incentive Plan, attached hereto as <u>Appendix A</u>.

#### General

Subject to permitted adjustments for certain corporate transactions, the Equity Incentive Plan authorizes the issuance or delivery to participants of up to 472,132 shares of Poage Bankshares, Inc. common stock pursuant to grants of restricted stock awards, incentive stock options and non-qualified stock options; provided, however, that the maximum number of shares of stock that may be delivered pursuant to the exercise of stock options is 337,237 (all of which may be granted as incentive stock options) and the maximum number of shares of stock that may be issued as restricted stock awards is 134,895.

The Equity Incentive Plan will be administered by the members of Poage Bankshares, Inc. Compensation Committee (the "Committee") who are "Disinterested Board Members," as defined in the Equity Incentive Plan. The Committee has the authority and discretion to select the persons who will receive awards; establishing the terms and conditions relating to each award; adopting rules and regulations relating to the Equity Incentive Plan; and interpreting the Equity Incentive Plan. The Equity Incentive Plan also permits the Committee to delegate all or any portion of its responsibilities and powers of any one or more of its members or to a committee or to one or more member of the Board of Directors who are not "outside directors" the authority to grant certain awards.

The Committee may grant an award under the Equity Incentive Plan as an alternative to or replacement of an existing award under the Equity Incentive Plan or any other plan of Poage Bankshares, Inc. or a subsidiary of Poage Bankshares, Inc., or as the form of payment for grants or rights earned or due under any other plan or arrangement of Poage Bankshares, Inc. or a subsidiary of Poage Bankshares, Inc., including the plan of any entity acquired by Poage Bankshares, Inc. or a subsidiary of Poage Bankshares, Inc.

#### Eligibility

Employees and directors of Poage Bankshares, Inc. or its subsidiaries are eligible to receive awards under the Equity Incentive Plan, except that non-employees may not be granted incentive stock options.

#### **Types of Awards**

The Committee may determine the type and terms and conditions of awards under the Equity Incentive Plan, which shall be set forth in an award agreement delivered to each participant. Each award shall be subject to conditions established by the Committee that are set forth in the recipient's award agreement, and shall be subject to vesting conditions and restrictions as determined by the Committee; provided, however, that unless the Committee specifies a different vesting rate, no award shall vest more rapidly than 20% per year over a five-year period commencing one year from the date of grant. Awards may be granted in a combination of incentive and non-qualified stock options or restricted stock.

*Stock Options*. A stock option is the right to purchase shares of common stock at a specified price for a specified period of time. Under the Equity Incentive Plan, the exercise price may not be less than the fair market value of a share of our common stock on the date the stock option is granted. Fair market value for purposes of the Equity Incentive Plan means (i) the final sales price of Poage Bankshares, Inc.' s common stock as reported on the principal United States securities exchange on which the shares are listed or admitted to trading on the date in question, or if Poage Bankshares, Inc.' s common stock was not traded on such date, then on the last preceding date on which any reported sale of Poage Bankshares, Inc. common stock occurred, and without regard to after-hours trading activity in New York City, or (ii) if the shares of our common stock are not listed or admitted to trading on any such exchange, then the closing bid quotation with respect to a share of our common stock on such date, as of the close of the market and without regard to after-hours trading activity. The Committee will determine the fair market value of the common stock, in accordance with Section 422 of the Internal Revenue Code and applicable requirements of Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code, if it cannot be determined in the manner described above. Further, the Committee may not grant a stock option with a term that is longer than 10 years.

Stock options are either "incentive" stock options or "non-qualified" stock options. Incentive stock options have certain tax advantages that are not available to non-qualified stock options, and must comply with the requirements of Section 422 of the Internal Revenue Code. Only officers and employees are eligible to receive incentive stock options. Outside directors may only receive non-qualified stock options under the Equity Incentive Plan. Shares of common stock purchased upon the exercise of a stock option must be paid for at the time of exercise in cash or by such other means as the Committee may from time to time permit, including: (i) by personal, certified or cashier's check, (ii) by tendering stock of Poage Bankshares, Inc. owned by the participant in satisfaction of the exercise price, (iii) by a "cashless exercise" through a third party, or (iv) by a combination of the foregoing. The total number of shares that may be acquired upon the exercise of a stock option will be rounded down to the nearest whole share.

*Restricted Stock*. A restricted stock award is a grant of common stock, subject to vesting requirements, to a participant for no consideration or such minimum consideration as may be required by applicable law. Restricted

stock awards may be granted only in whole shares of common stock and are subject to vesting conditions and other restrictions established by the Committee as set forth in the Equity Incentive Plan or the award agreement. Prior to their vesting, unless otherwise determined by the Committee, the recipient of a restricted stock award may exercise any voting rights with respect to common stock subject to an award and receive any dividends and distributions with respect to the common stock.

**Prohibition Against Repricing of Options.** The Equity Incentive Plan provides that neither the Committee nor the Board is authorized to make any adjustment or amendment that reduces or would have the effect of reducing the exercise price of a stock option previously granted.

#### Limitation on Awards Under the Equity Incentive Plan

The maximum number of shares of stock that may be available for awards as stock options is 337,237 and for awards of restricted stock is 134,895.

To the extent any shares of stock covered by an award (including restricted stock awards) under the Equity Incentive Plan are not delivered to a participant or beneficiary because the award is forfeited or canceled or because a stock option is not exercised, then such shares shall not be deemed to have been delivered for purposes of determining the maximum number of shares of stock available for delivery under the Plan.

In the event of a corporate transaction involving the stock of Poage Bankshares, Inc. (including, without limitation, any stock dividend, stock split or other special and nonrecurring dividend or distribution, recapitalization, reorganization, merger, consolidation, spin-off, combination or exchange of shares), the Committee will, in an equitable manner, adjust any or all of the number and kind of securities deemed to be available for grants of stock options and restricted stock, the number and kind of securities that may be delivered or deliverable in respect of outstanding stock options and restricted stock and the exercise price of stock options. In addition, the Committee is authorized to make adjustments in the terms and conditions of, and the criteria included in, stock options and restricted stock.

#### **Performance Features**

*General.* A federal income tax deduction for Poage Bankshares, Inc. will generally be unavailable for annual compensation in excess of \$1.0 million paid to its chief executive officer or three other most highly compensated officers (other than its chief financial officer). However, amounts that constitute "performance-based compensation" (as that term is used in section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code) are not counted toward the \$1.0 million limit. The Equity Incentive Plan is designed so that stock options will be considered performance-based compensation. The Committee may designate whether any restricted stock awards granted to any participant are intended to be performance-based compensation. Any restricted stock awards designated as performance-based compensation will be conditioned on the achievement of one or more performance measures, to the extent required by section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code.

*Performance Measures.* The performance measures that may be used for such awards will be based on any one or more of the following performance measures, as selected by the Committee: book value or tangible book value per share; basic cash earnings per share; diluted earnings per share; return on equity; net income or net income before taxes; cash earnings; net interest income; noninterest income; general and administrative expense to average assets ratio; cash general and administrative expense to average assets ratio; efficiency ratio; cash efficiency ratio; return on average assets; cash return on average assets; return on average stockholders' equity; cash return on average stockholders' equity; return on average tangible stockholders' equity; cash return on average tangible stockholders' equity; core earnings; operating income; operating efficiency ratio; net interest rate margin or net interest rate spread; growth in assets, loans, or deposits; loan production volume; non-performing loans; cash flow; strategic business objectives consisting of one or more objectives based upon meeting specified cost targets, business expansion goals, and goals relating to acquisitions or divestitures, or goals relating to capital raising and capital management; or any combination of the foregoing. Performance measures may be based on the performance of Poage Bankshares, Inc. as a whole or of any one or more subsidiaries or business units of Poage Bankshares, Inc. or a subsidiary and may be measured relative to a peer group, an index or a business plan. The Committee may adjust performance measures in certain circumstances, provided, however, no adjustment may be made with respect



to an award that is intended to be performance-based compensation within the meaning of section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, except to the extent the Committee exercises negative discretion as permitted under applicable law for purposes of an exception under section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code. In establishing the performance measures, the Committee may provide for the inclusion or exclusion of certain items.

#### Vesting of Awards

If the vesting of an award under the Equity Incentive Plan is conditioned on the completion of a specified period of service with Poage Bankshares, Inc. or its subsidiaries, without the achievement of performance measures or objectives, then the required period of service for full vesting shall be determined by the Committee and evidenced in an award agreement; subject to acceleration of vesting in the event of death, disability, retirement or involuntary termination of employment or service following a change in control.

#### **Change in Control**

Unless otherwise stated in an award agreement, upon the occurrence of an involuntary termination of employment following a change in control of Poage Bankshares, Inc., all outstanding options then held by a participant will become fully exercisable and all restricted stock awards shall be fully earned and vested. For the purposes of the Equity Incentive Plan, a change in control occurs when (a) Poage Bankshares, Inc. or Home Federal Savings and Loan Association merges into or consolidates with another entity or merges another bank or corporation into Poage Bankshares, Inc. or Home Federal Savings and Loan Association sheld by persons who were stockholders of the Company or the Bank before the merger or consolidation; (b) a person or persons acting in concert has or have become the beneficial owner of 25% or more of a class of Poage Bankshares, Inc.' s or Home Federal Savings and Loan Association' s voting securities; (c) during any period of two consecutive years, individuals who constitute Poage Bankshares, Inc.' s or Home Federal Savings and Loan Association' for Poage Bankshares, Inc.' s or Home Federal Savings and Loan Association' s voting securities; (c) during any period of Directors at the beginning of the two-year period cease for any reason to constitute at least a majority of Poage Bankshares, Inc.' s or Home Federal Savings and Loan Association' s first elected by the board by a vote of at least two-thirds of the directors who were directors at the beginning of the two-year period; or (d) Poage Bankshares, Inc. or Home Federal Savings and Loan Association sells to a third party all or substantially all of its assets.

In the event of a change in control, any performance measure attached to an award under the Equity Incentive Plan shall be deemed satisfied as of the date of the change in control.

#### Forfeiture

The Committee may specify in an award agreement that rights and benefits with respect to an award may be subject to reduction, cancellation, forfeiture or recoupment upon termination of employment for cause; termination of services with Poage Bankshares, Inc. or its affiliate or subsidiary; any material violation of one or more of Poage Bankshares, Inc.'s policies; breach of noncompetition, confidentiality or other restrictive covenants that apply to the employee or director; or any other conduct that is detrimental to Poage Bankshares, Inc.'s business or reputation, its affiliates and/or its subsidiaries.

If Poage Bankshares, Inc. is required to prepare an accounting restatement due to the material noncompliance of Poage Bankshares, Inc., as a result of misconduct, with any financial reporting requirement under the securities laws, any participant who is subject to automatic forfeiture under Section 304 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 shall reimburse Poage Bankshares, Inc. the amount of any payment in settlement of an award earned or accrued during the twelve-month period following the first public issuance or filing with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (whichever just occurred) of the financial document embodying such financial reporting requirement. In addition, in the event of an accounting restatement, the Committee, in its sole and exclusive discretion, may require that any participant reimburse Poage Bankshares, Inc. for all or any part of the amount of any payment in settlement of any award granted hereunder.

#### **Amendment and Termination**

The Board of Directors may, at any time, amend or terminate the Equity Incentive Plan or any award granted under the Equity Incentive Plan, provided that, except as provided in the Equity Incentive Plan, no amendment or termination may adversely impair the rights of a Participant or beneficiary under an award without the participant's (or affected beneficiary's) written consent. The Board of Directors may not amend the Equity Incentive Plan to materially increase the benefits accruing to participants under the plan, materially increase the aggregate number of securities that may be issued under the Equity Incentive Plan (other than as provided in the Equity Incentive Plan), or materially modify the requirements for participation in the Equity Incentive Plan, without approval of stockholders. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Committee may amend the Equity Incentive Plan or any award agreement, to take effect retroactively or otherwise, to conform the Equity Incentive Plan or the award agreement to current or future law or to avoid an accounting treatment resulting from an accounting pronouncement or interpretation issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission or Financial Accounting Standards Board subsequent to the adoption of the Equity Incentive Plan or the making of the award affected thereby, which, in the sole discretion of the Committee, may materially and adversely affect the financial condition or results of operations of Poage Bankshares, Inc.

#### **Duration of Plan**

The Equity Incentive Plan will become effective upon approval by the stockholders at this annual meeting. The Equity Incentive Plan will remain in effect as long as any awards under it are outstanding; however, no awards may be granted under the Equity Incentive Plan on or after the 10-year anniversary of the effective date of the Equity Incentive Plan. At any time, the Board of Directors may terminate the Equity Incentive Plan. However, any termination of the Equity Incentive Plan will not affect outstanding awards.

#### **Federal Income Tax Considerations**

The following is a summary of the federal income tax consequences that may arise in conjunction with participation in the Equity Incentive Plan.

*Non-Qualified Stock Options.* The grant of a non-qualified option will not result in taxable income to the participant. Except as described below, the participant will realize ordinary income at the time of exercise in an amount equal to the excess of the fair market value of the shares acquired over the exercise price for those shares, and Poage Bankshares, Inc. will be entitled to a corresponding deduction for tax purposes. Gains or losses realized by the participant upon disposition of such shares will be treated as capital gains and losses, with the basis in such shares equal to the fair market value of the shares at the time of exercise.

*Incentive Stock Options.* The grant of an incentive stock option will not result in taxable income to the participant. The exercise of an incentive stock option will not result in taxable income to the participant provided the participant was, without a break in service, an employee of Poage Bankshares, Inc. or a subsidiary during the period beginning on the date of the grant of the option and ending on the date three months prior to the date of exercise (one year prior to the date of exercise if the participant is disabled, as that term is defined in the Internal Revenue Code).

The excess of the fair market value of the shares at the time of the exercise of an incentive stock option over the exercise price is an adjustment that is included in the calculation of the participant's alternative minimum taxable income for the tax year in which the incentive stock option is exercised. For purposes of determining the participant's alternative minimum tax liability for the year of disposition of the shares acquired pursuant to the incentive stock option exercise, the participant will have a basis in those shares equal to the fair market value of the shares at the time of exercise.

If the participant does not sell or otherwise dispose of the shares within two years from the date of the grant of the incentive stock option or within one year after the exercise of such stock option, then, upon disposition of such shares, any amount realized in excess of the exercise price will be taxed as a capital gain. A capital loss will be recognized to the extent that the amount realized is less than the exercise price.

If the foregoing holding period requirements are not met, the participant will generally realize ordinary income at the time of the disposition of the shares, in an amount equal to the lesser of (i) the excess of the fair market value of the shares on the date of exercise over the exercise price, or (ii) the excess, if any, of the amount realized upon disposition of the shares over the exercise price, and Poage Bankshares, Inc. will be entitled to a corresponding deduction. If the amount realized exceeds the value of the shares on the date of exercise, any additional amount will be a capital gain. If the amount realized is less than the exercise price, the participant will recognize no income, and a capital loss will be recognized equal to the excess of the exercise price over the amount realized upon the disposition of the shares.

*Restricted Stock.* A participant who has been granted a restricted stock award will not realize taxable income at the time of grant, provided that that the stock subject to the award is not delivered at the time of grant, or if the stock is delivered, it is subject to restrictions that constitute a "substantial risk of forfeiture" for federal income tax purposes. Upon the later of delivery or vesting of shares subject to an award, the holder will realize ordinary income in an amount equal to the then fair market value of those shares and Poage Bankshares, Inc. will be entitled to a corresponding deduction for tax purposes. Gains or losses realized by the participant upon disposition of such shares will be treated as capital gains and losses, with the basis in such shares equal to the fair market value of the shares at the time of delivery or vesting. Dividends paid to the holder during the restriction period, if so provided, will also be compensation income to the participant and Poage Bankshares, Inc. will be entitled to a corresponding deduction for tax purposes. A participant who makes an election under Section 83(b) of the Internal Revenue Code will include the full fair market value of the restricted stock award in taxable income in the year of grant at the grant date fair market value.

*Withholding of Taxes.* Poage Bankshares, Inc. may withhold amounts from participants to satisfy withholding tax requirements. Except as otherwise provided by the Committee, participants may have shares withheld from awards to satisfy the minimum tax withholding requirements.

*Change in Control.* Any acceleration of the vesting or payment of awards under the Equity Incentive Plan in the event of a change in control or termination of service following a change in control may cause part or all of the consideration involved to be treated as an "excess parachute payment" under the Internal Revenue Code, which may subject the participant to a 20% excise tax and preclude deduction by Poage Bankshares, Inc.

*Deduction Limits*. Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code generally limits Poage Bankshares, Inc.' s ability to deduct for tax purposes compensation in excess of \$1.0 million per year for its chief executive officer and the three other most highly compensated executives (excluding the chief financial officer) named in the summary compensation table ("covered employees"). Restricted stock awards, other than performance-based restricted stock awards, and other awards that are not subject to performance goals may be subject to this deduction limit if income recognized on the awards plus other compensation of the executive that is subject to the limit exceeds \$1.0 million. "Qualified performance-based compensation" is not subject to this limit and is fully deductible by Poage Bankshares, Inc. "Qualified performance-based compensation" is compensation that is subject to a number of requirements such as stockholder approval of possible performance goals, and objective quantification of those goals in advance. Stock options available for award under the Equity Incentive Plan will be considered "qualified performance-based compensation" even if such awards vest solely due to the passage of time during the performance of services. Accordingly, if an award is not exempt from Section 162(m), income recognized on such award by a covered employee will be subject to the \$1.0 million deduction limit on compensation.

In the case of performance-based awards granted to a covered employee that are not distributed until after the covered employee's retirement or other termination of employment, the \$1.0 million deduction limit will not apply and the award will be fully deductible. Performance awards may provide for accelerated vesting upon death, disability, or a change in control and still be considered exempt from the \$1.0 million deduction limit. The Equity Incentive Plan is designed so that stock options and performance-based restricted stock awards that are subject to performance goals may qualify as qualified performance-based compensation that is not subject to the \$1.0 million deduction limit. Poage Bankshares, Inc. expects that the Committee will take these deduction limits into account in setting the size and the terms and conditions of awards. However, the Committee may decide to grant awards that result in executive compensation that exceeds the deduction limit.

*Tax Advice.* The preceding discussion is based on federal tax laws and regulations presently in effect, which are subject to change, and the discussion does not purport to be a complete description of the federal income tax aspects of the Equity Incentive Plan. A participant may also be subject to state and local taxes in connection with the grant of awards under the Equity Incentive Plan. Poage Bankshares, Inc. suggests that participants consult with their individual tax advisors to determine the applicability of the tax rules to the awards granted to them in their personal circumstances.

#### **Accounting Treatment**

Under FASB ASC Topic 718, Poage Bankshares, Inc. is required to recognize compensation expense on its income statement over the requisite service period or performance period based on the grant date fair value of stock options and other equity-based compensation (such as restricted stock).

#### Awards to be Granted

The Board of Directors adopted the Equity Incentive Plan, and the Compensation Committee intends to meet promptly after stockholder approval to determine the specific terms of the awards, including the allocation of awards to executive officers, employees and non-employee directors. At the present time, no specific determination has been made as to the grant or allocation of awards.

#### **Recommendation of the Board**

The Board of Directors recommends a vote "FOR" the approval of the Poage Bankshares, Inc. 2013 Equity Incentive Plan.

# PROPOSAL V-RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

The Audit Committee of Poage Bankshares, Inc. has approved the engagement of Crowe Horwath LLP to be our independent registered public accounting firm for the year ending September 30, 2013, subject to the ratification of the engagement by our stockholders. At the Annual Meeting, stockholders will consider and vote on the ratification of the Audit Committee's engagement of Crowe Horwath LLP for the year ending September 30, 2013. A representative of Crowe Horwath LLP is expected to attend the annual meeting and may respond to appropriate questions and make a statement if he or she so desires.

Even if the engagement of Crowe Horwath LLP is ratified, the Audit Committee, in its discretion, may direct the appointment of a different independent registered public accounting firm at any time during the year if it determines that such change would be in the best interests of Poage Bankshares, Inc. and its stockholders.

Set forth below is certain information concerning aggregate fees billed for professional services rendered by Crowe Horwath LLP during the years ended September 30, 2012 and 2011.

	Year Ended	Year Ended
	September 30, 2012	September 30, 2011
Audit Fees	\$ 140,343	\$ 78,455
Audit-Related Fees	\$ -	\$ 166,056
Tax Fees	\$ -	\$ -
All Other Fees	\$ -	\$ -

*Audit Fees.* The aggregate fees billed to us for professional services rendered for the audit of our annual financial statements, review of the financial statements included in our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and services that are normally provided in connection with statutory and regulatory filings and engagements were \$140,143 and \$78,455 during the years ended September 30, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

*Audit Related Fees.* There were no fees billed to us for audit-related services during the year ended September 30, 2012. During the year ended September 30, 2011, audit-related fees of \$166,056 were billed to us, all of which consisted of fees for services related to the mutual-to-stock conversion of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association and our stock offering, including review of the registration statement and prospectus, the issuance of consents, participation in drafting sessions, the preparation of accounting opinions, assistance with responses to regulatory accounting comments and the preparation of a comfort letter.

*Tax Fees.* There were no fees billed to us by Crowe Horwath LLP for professional services rendered for tax preparation, tax consultation and tax compliance during the years ended September 30, 2012 and 2011.

*All Other Fees.* There were no fees billed to us by Crowe Horwath LLP for other services during the years ended September 30, 2012 and 2011.

The Audit Committee has considered whether the provision of non-audit services, which relate primarily to tax compliance services and tax advice rendered, is compatible with maintaining the independence of Crowe Horwath LLP. The Audit Committee concluded that performing such services does not affect the independence of Crowe Horwath LLP in performing its function as our independent registered public accounting firm.

The Audit Committee's policy is to pre-approve all audit and non-audit services provided by the independent registered public accounting firm, either by approving an engagement prior to the engagement or pursuant to a pre-approval policy with respect to particular services. These services may include audit services, audit-related services, tax services and other services. The Audit Committee may delegate pre-approval authority to one or more members of the Audit Committee when expedition of services is necessary. The independent registered public accounting firm and management are required to periodically report to the full Audit Committee regarding the extent of services provided by the independent registered public accounting firm in accordance with this pre-approval, and the fees for the services performed to date. The audit-related fees and all other fees described above were approved as part of our engagement of Crowe Horwath LLP.

The Board of Directors recommends a vote "FOR" the ratification of Crowe Horwath LLP as independent registered public accounting firm for the year ending September 30, 2013.

# STOCKHOLDER PROPOSALS

In order to be eligible for inclusion in the proxy materials for our 2014 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, any stockholder proposal to take action at such meeting must be received at Poage Bankshares, Inc.'s executive office, 1500 Carter Avenue, Ashland, Kentucky 41101, no later than September 11, 2013. If the date of the 2014 Annual Meeting of Stockholders is changed by more than 30 days, any stockholder proposal must be received at a reasonable time before we print or mail proxy materials for such meeting. Any such proposals shall be subject to the requirements of the proxy rules adopted under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

In order to be considered at our 2014 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, but not included in proxy materials, a stockholder proposal to take action at such meeting must be received at our executive office not more than 90 days and not less than 80 days prior to the date of such meeting; provided, that if less than 90 days' notice of such meeting is given to stockholders, such stockholder proposal must be received at our executive office not later than the 10<sup>th</sup> day following the date on which notice of such meeting was mailed to stockholders or was otherwise disclosed in a press release reported by a nationally recognized news service, in a document publicly filed or furnished with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or on our website. Any such proposals shall be subject to the requirements of the proxy rules adopted under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

The notice with respect to stockholder proposals that are not nominations for director must set forth as to each matter: (i) a brief description of the proposal desired to be brought before the annual meeting and the reasons for conducting such business at the annual meeting; (ii) the name and address of such stockholder as the appear on the books of Poage Bankshares, Inc. and of the beneficial owner, if any, on whose behalf the proposal is made; (iii) the class or series and number of shares of capital stock which are owned beneficially or of record by such stockholder and such beneficial owner; (iv) a description of all arrangements or understandings between such stockholder and any other person or persons (including their names) in connection with the proposal of such



business by such stockholder and any material interest of such stockholder in such business; and (v) a representation that such stockholder intends to appear in person or by proxy at the annual meeting to bring such business before the meeting.

A notice with respect to director nominations must include (a) as to each person whom the stockholder proposes to nominate for election as a director, (i) all information relating to such person that would indicate such person's qualification to serve on the Board of Directors of Poage Bankshares, Inc.; (ii) an affidavit that such person would not be disqualified under the provisions of Article II, Section 12 of our Bylaws; (iii) such information relating to such person that is required to be disclosed in connection with solicitations of proxies for election of directors, or is otherwise required, in each case pursuant to Regulation 14A under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and (iv) a written consent of each proposed nominee to be named as a nominee and to serve as a director if elected; and (b) as to the stockholder giving the notice: (i) the name and address of such stockholder as they appear on Poage Bankshares, Inc.' s books and of the beneficial owner, if any, on whose behalf the nomination is made; (ii) the class or series and number of shares of capital stock which are owned beneficially or of record by such stockholder and such beneficial owner; (iii) a description of all arrangements or understandings between such stockholder and each proposed nominee and any other person or persons (including their names) pursuant to which the nomination(s) are to be made by such stockholder; (iv) a representation that such stockholder intends to appear in person or by proxy at the meeting to nominate the persons named in its notice; and (v) any other information relating to such stockholder that would be required to be disclosed in a proxy statement or other filings required to be made in connection with solicitations of proxies for election of directors pursuant to Regulation 14A under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Nothing in this proxy statement shall be deemed to require us to include in our proxy statement and proxy relating to an annual meeting any stockholder proposal that does not meet all of the requirements for inclusion established by the Securities and Exchange Commission in effect at the time such proposal is received.

#### **OTHER MATTERS**

The Board of Directors is not aware of any business to come before the Annual Meeting other than the matters described above in the Proxy Statement. However, if any matters should properly come before the Annual Meeting, it is intended that the Board of Directors, as holders of the proxies, will act as determined by a majority vote.

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# MISCELLANEOUS

The cost of solicitation of proxies will be borne by Poage Bankshares, Inc. Poage Bankshares, Inc. will reimburse brokerage firms and other custodians, nominees and fiduciaries for reasonable expenses incurred by them in sending proxy materials to the beneficial owners of common stock. In addition to solicitations by mail, directors, officers and regular employees of Poage Bankshares, Inc. may solicit proxies personally or by telephone without additional compensation.

# A COPY OF POAGE BANKSHARES, INC.' S 2012 ANNUAL REPORT TO STOCKHOLDERS WILL BE FURNISHED WITHOUT CHARGE TO STOCKHOLDERS AS OF THE RECORD DATE UPON WRITTEN REQUEST TO THE SECRETARY, 1500 CARTER AVENUE, ASHLAND, KENTUCKY 41101 OR BY CALLING (606) 324-7196.

# IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS

Poage Bankshares, Inc.' s Proxy Statement, including the Notice of the Annual Meeting of Stockholders, and the 2012 Annual Report to Stockholders are each available on the Internet at <u>http://www.cfpproxy.com/7069</u>.

# BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gm

James W. King Secretary

Ashland, Kentucky January 8, 2013

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# APPENDIX A

# POAGE BANKSHARES, INC. 2013 EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN

#### POAGE BANKSHARES, INC.

#### **2013 EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN**

## **ARTICLE 1 - GENERAL**

Section 1.1 <u>Purpose, Effective Date and Term</u>. The purpose of the Poage Bankshares, Inc. 2013 Equity Incentive Plan (the "Plan") is to promote the long-term financial success of Poage Bankshares, Inc. (the "Company"), and its Subsidiaries, including Home Federal Savings and Loan Association (the "Association"), by providing a means to attract, retain and reward individuals who contribute to such success and to further align their interests with those of the Company's stockholders. The "Effective Date" of the Plan shall be the date the Plan satisfies the applicable shareholder approval requirements. The Plan shall remain in effect as long as any Awards are outstanding; *provided, however*, that no Awards may be granted under the Plan after the ten-year anniversary of the Effective Date.

Section 1.2 <u>Administration</u>. The Plan shall be administered by the Compensation Committee of the Company's Board of Directors (the "Committee"), in accordance with Section 5.1.

Section 1.3 <u>Participation</u>. Each Employee or Director of the Company or any Subsidiary of the Company who is granted an Award in accordance with the terms of the Plan shall be a "Participant" in the Plan. Awards shall be limited to Employees and Directors of the Company or any Subsidiary.

Section 1.4 Definitions. Capitalized terms used in this Plan are defined in Article 8 and elsewhere in this Plan.

# ARTICLE 2 - AWARDS

Section 2.1 <u>General</u>. Any Award under the Plan may be granted singularly or in combination with another Award (or Awards). Each Award under the Plan shall be subject to the terms and conditions of the Plan and such additional terms, conditions, limitations and restrictions as the Committee shall provide with respect to such Award and as evidenced in the Award Agreement. Subject to the provisions of Section 2.8, an Award may be granted as an alternative to or replacement of an existing Award under the Plan or any other plan of the Company or any Subsidiary or as the form of payment for grants or rights earned or due under any other compensation plan or arrangement of the Company or its Subsidiaries, including without limitation the plan of any entity acquired by the Company or any Subsidiary. The types of Awards that may be granted under the Plan include:

(a) *Stock Options*. A Stock Option means a grant under Section 2.2 that represents the right to purchase shares of Stock at an Exercise Price established by the Committee. Any Stock Option may be either an Incentive Stock Option (an "ISO") that is intended to satisfy the requirements applicable to an "Incentive Stock Option" described in Code Section 422(b), or a Non-Qualified Stock Option (a "Non-Qualified Option") that is not intended to be an ISO; provided, however, that no ISOs may be granted: (i) after the ten-year anniversary of the Effective Date; or (ii) to a non-Employee. Unless otherwise specifically provided by its terms, any Stock Option granted to an Employee under this Plan shall be an ISO. Any ISO granted under this Plan that does not qualify as an ISO for any reason (whether at the time of grant or as the result of a subsequent event) shall be deemed to be a Non-Qualified Option. In addition, any ISO granted under this Plan may be unilaterally modified by the Committee to disqualify such Stock Option from ISO treatment such that it shall become a Non-Qualified Option; provided, however, that any such modification shall be ineffective if it causes the Award to be subject to Code Section 409A (unless, as modified, the Award complies with Code Section 409A).

(b) *Restricted Stock*. Restricted Stock means a grant of shares of Stock under Section 2.3 for no consideration or such minimum consideration as may be required by applicable law, either alone or in addition to other Awards granted under the Plan, subject to a vesting schedule or the satisfaction of market conditions or performance conditions.

#### Section 2.2 Stock Options.

(a) *Grant of Stock Options*. Each Stock Option shall be evidenced by an Award Agreement that shall: (i) specify the number of Stock Options covered by the Award; (ii) specify the date of grant of the Stock Option; (iii) specify the vesting period or conditions to vesting; and (iv) contain such other terms and conditions not inconsistent with the Plan, including the effect of termination of a Participant's employment or Service with the Company as the Committee may, in its discretion, prescribe.

(b) Terms and Conditions. A Stock Option shall be exercisable in accordance with such terms and conditions and during such periods as may be established by the Committee. In no event, however, shall a Stock Option expire later than ten years after the date of its grant (or five years with respect to ISOs granted to an Employee who is a 10% Stockholder). The "Exercise Price" of each Stock Option shall not be less than 100% of the Fair Market Value of a share of Stock on the date of grant (or, if greater, the par value of a share of Stock); provided, however, that the Exercise Price of an ISO shall not be less than 110% of Fair Market Value of a share of Stock on the date of grant if granted to a 10% Stockholder; provided further; that the Exercise Price may be higher or lower in the case of Stock Options granted or exchanged in replacement of existing Awards held by an Employee or Director of an acquired entity. The payment of the Exercise Price of a Stock Option shall be by cash or, subject to limitations imposed by applicable law, by such other means as the Committee may from time to time permit, including: (i) by tendering, either actually or constructively by attestation. shares of Stock valued at Fair Market Value as of the day of exercise; (ii) by irrevocably authorizing a third party, acceptable to the Committee, to sell shares of Stock (or a sufficient portion of the shares) acquired upon exercise of the Stock Option and to remit to the Company a sufficient portion of the sale proceeds to pay the entire Exercise Price and any tax withholding resulting from such exercise; (iii) by a net settlement of the Stock Option, using a portion of the shares obtained on exercise in payment of the Exercise Price of the Stock Option: (iv) by personal, certified or cashier's check; (v) by other property deemed acceptable by the Committee; or (vi) by any combination thereof. The total number of shares that may be acquired upon the exercise of a Stock Option shall be rounded down to the nearest whole share.

#### Section 2.3 Restricted Stock.

(a) *Grant of Restricted Stock*. Each Restricted Stock Award shall be evidenced by an Award Agreement that shall: (i) specify the number of shares of Stock covered by the Restricted Stock Award; (ii) specify the date of grant of the Restricted Stock Award; (iii) specify the vesting period; and (iv) contain such other terms and conditions not inconsistent with the Plan, including the effect of termination of a Participant' s employment or Service with the Company, as the Committee may, in its discretion, prescribe. All Restricted Stock Awards shall be in the form of issued and outstanding shares of Stock that shall be either: (x) registered in the name of the Participant and held by the Company, together with a stock power executed by the Participant in favor of the Company, pending the vesting or forfeiture of the Restricted Stock; or (y) registered in the name of, and delivered to, the Participant. In any event, the certificates evidencing the Restricted Stock Award shall at all times prior to the applicable vesting date bear the following legend:

The Stock evidenced hereby is subject to the terms of an Award Agreement with Poage Bankshares, Inc. dated [Date], made pursuant to the terms of the Poage Bankshares, Inc. 2013 Equity Incentive Plan, copies of which are on file at the executive offices of Poage Bankshares, Inc., and may not be sold, encumbered, hypothecated or otherwise transferred except in accordance with the terms of such Plan and Award Agreement,

or such other restrictive legend as the Committee, in its discretion, may specify. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Company may in its sole discretion issue Restricted Stock in any other approved format (*e.g., electronically*) in order to facilitate the paperless transfer of such Awards. In the event Restricted Stock is not issued in certificate form, the Company and the transfer agent shall maintain appropriate bookkeeping entries that evidence Participants' ownership of such Awards. Restricted Stock that is not issued in certificate form shall be subject to the same terms and conditions of the Plan as certificated shares, including the restrictions on transferability and the provision of a stock power executed by the Participant in favor of the Company, until the satisfaction of the conditions to which the Restricted Stock Award is subject.

(b) Terms and Conditions. Each Restricted Stock Award shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

(i) *Dividends*. Unless the Committee determines otherwise with respect to any Restricted Stock Award and specifies such determination in the relevant Award Agreement, any dividends or distributions declared and paid with respect to shares of Stock subject to the Restricted Stock Award, other than a stock dividend consisting of shares of Stock, shall be immediately distributed to the Participant. If the Committee determines to delay the distribution of dividends to a Participant until the vesting of an Award of Restricted Stock, the Committee shall cause the dividend (and any earnings thereon) to be distributed to the Participant no later than two and one-half months following the date on which the Restricted Stock vests.

(ii) *Voting Rights*. Unless the Committee determines otherwise with respect to any Restricted Stock Award and specifies such determination in the relevant Award Agreement, voting rights with respect to the shares of Restricted Stock shall be exercised by the Participant in his or her discretion.

(iii) *Tender Offers and Merger Elections*. Each Participant to whom a Restricted Stock Award is granted shall have the right to respond, or to direct the response, with respect to the related shares of Restricted Stock, to any tender offer, exchange offer, cash/stock merger consideration election or other offer made to, or elections made by, the holders of shares of Stock. Such a direction for any such shares of Restricted Stock shall be given by proxy or ballot (if the Participant is the beneficial owner of the shares of Restricted Stock for voting purposes) or by completing and filing, with the inspector of elections, the trustee or such other person who shall be independent of the Company as the Committee shall designate in the direction (if the Participant is not such a beneficial owner), a written direction in the form and manner prescribed by the Committee. If no such direction is given, then the shares of Restricted Stock shall not be tendered.

Section 2.4 <u>Performance-Based Compensation</u>. Any Award under the Plan that is intended to be "performance-based compensation" within the meaning of Code Section 162(m) shall be conditioned on the achievement of one or more objective performance measures, to the extent required by Code Section 162(m), as may be determined by the Committee. The grant of any Award and the establishment of performance measures that are intended to be performance-based compensation shall be made during the period required under Code Section 162(m) and shall comply with all applicable requirements of Code Section 162(m).

(a) Performance Measures. Such performance measures may be based on any one or more of the following:

- (i) book value or tangible book value per share;
- (ii) basic cash earnings per share;
- (iii) diluted earnings per share;
- (iv) return on equity;
- (v) net income or net income before taxes;
- (vi) cash earnings;
- (vii) net interest income;
- (viii) non-interest income;
- (ix) general and administrative expense to average assets ratio;

(x) cash general and administrative expense to average assets ratio;

(xi) efficiency ratio;

(xii) cash efficiency ratio;

(xiii) return on average assets;

(xiv) cash return on average assets;

(xv) return on average stockholders' equity;

(xvi) cash return on average stockholders' equity;

(xvii) return on average tangible stockholders' equity;

(xviii) cash return on average tangible stockholders' equity;

(xix) core earnings;

(xx) operating income;

- (xxi) operating efficiency ratio;
- (xxii) net interest rate margin or net interest rate spread;
- (xxiii) growth in assets, loans, or deposits;
- (xxiv) loan production volume;

(xxv) non-performing loans;

(xxvi) cash flow;

(xxvii) strategic business objectives, consisting of one or more objectives based upon meeting specified cost targets, business expansion goals, and goals relating to acquisitions or divestitures, or goals relating to capital raising and capital management; or

(xxviii) any combination of the foregoing.

Performance measures may be based on the performance of the Company as a whole or on any one or more Subsidiaries or business units of the Company or a Subsidiary and may be measured relative to a peer group, an index or a business plan and may be considered as absolute measures or changes in measures. The Committee may elect to use different performance measures and shall have sole discretion in determining how performance measures are calculated. In establishing any performance measures, the Committee may provide for the exclusion of the effects of the following items, to the extent identified in the audited financial statements of the Company, including footnotes, or in the Management's Discussion and Analysis section of the Company's annual report or in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis Section, if any, of the Company's annual proxy statement: (i) extraordinary, unusual, and/or nonrecurring items of gain or loss; (ii) gains or losses on the disposition of a business; (iii) changes in tax or accounting principles, regulations or laws; or (iv) mergers or acquisitions. To the extent not specifically excluded, such effects shall be included in any applicable performance measure. The Committee also may exclude other items in its sole discretion in establishing and calculating performance measures, which may include, but not limited to, the effect of dividends and the expense of Restricted Stock Awards.

(b) *Adjustments*. Pursuant to this Section 2.4, in certain circumstances the Committee may adjust performance measures; *provided*, *however*; no adjustment may be made with respect to an Award that is intended to be performance-based compensation within the meaning of Code Section 162(m), except to the extent the Committee exercises such negative discretion as is permitted under applicable law for purposes of an exception under Code Section 162(m). If the Committee determines that a change in the business, operations, corporate structure or capital structure of the Company or the manner in which the Company or its Subsidiaries conducts its business or other events or circumstances render current performance measures to be unsuitable, the Committee may modify such performance measures, in whole or in part, as the Committee deems appropriate. If a Participant is promoted, demoted or transferred to a different business unit during a performance period, the Committee may determine that the selected performance measures or applicable performance measures or change the applicable performance period; or (ii) cause to be made a cash payment to the Participant in an amount determined by the Committee.

Section 2.5 Vesting of Awards. (a) The Committee shall specify the vesting schedule or conditions of each Award. Unless otherwise specified by the Committee and set forth in an Award Agreement between the Company and the Participant or as set forth in an employment agreement entered into by and between the Company and/or the Association and an Employee, Awards under the Plan shall be granted with a vesting rate not exceeding 20% per year, with the first installment vesting one year after the date of grant. If the right to become vested in an Award under the Plan (including the right to exercise a Stock Option) is conditioned on the completion of a specified period of Service with the Company or its Subsidiaries, without achievement of performance measures or other performance objectives being required as a condition of vesting, and without it being granted in lieu of, or in exchange for, other compensation, then the required period of Service for full vesting shall be determined by the Committee and evidenced in the Award Agreement (subject to acceleration of vesting, to the extent permitted by the Committee, including in the event of the Participant's death, Disability, Retirement or Involuntary Termination of Employment following a Change in Control). Unless otherwise provided by the Committee, Service as a director emeritus or advisory director shall constitute Service for purposes of vesting.

(b) Notwithstanding Section 2.8 and Article 4 hereof, to the extent permitted by applicable law or regulations, or pursuant to an applicable regulatory waiver, the Committee may determine that all Stock Options then held by the Participant shall become fully exercisable (subject to the expiration provisions otherwise applicable to the Stock Option) and all Restricted Stock Awards described in Section 2.1(b) shall be fully earned and vested immediately.

**Section 2.6 Deferred Compensation**. If any Award would be considered "deferred compensation" as defined under Code Section 409A ("Deferred Compensation"), the Committee reserves the absolute right (including the right to delegate such right) to unilaterally amend the Plan or the Award Agreement, without the consent of the Participant, to maintain exemption from, or to comply with, Code Section 409A. Any amendment by the Committee to the Plan or an Award Agreement pursuant to this Section 2.6 shall maintain, to the extent practicable, the original intent of the applicable provision without violating Code Section 409A. A Participant's acceptance of any Award under the Plan constitutes acknowledgement and consent to such rights of the Committee, without further consideration or action. Any discretionary authority retained by the Committee pursuant to the terms of this Plan or pursuant to an Award Agreement shall not be applicable to an Award which is determined to constitute Deferred Compensation, if such discretionary authority would contravene Code Section 409A.

Section 2.7 <u>Prohibition Against Option Repricing</u>. Except for adjustments pursuant to Section 3.3, and reductions of the Exercise Price approved by the Company's stockholders, neither the Committee nor the Board shall have the right or authority to make any adjustment or amendment that reduces or would have the effect of reducing the Exercise Price of a Stock Option previously granted under the Plan, whether through amendment, cancellation (including cancellation in exchange for a cash payment in excess of the Stock Option's in-the-money value) or replacement grants, or other means.

**Section 2.8.** <u>Effect of Termination of Service on Awards.</u> The Committee shall establish the effect of a Termination of Service on the continuation of rights and benefits available under an Award or the Plan and, in so doing, may make distinctions based upon, among other things, the cause of Termination of Service and type of Award. Unless otherwise specified by the Committee and set forth in an Award Agreement between the Company and the Participant or as set forth in an employment agreement entered into by and between the Company and/or the Association and an Employee, the following provisions shall apply to each Award granted under this Plan:

(a) Upon a Participant's Termination of Service for any reason other than Disability, death, Retirement or termination for Cause, Stock Options shall be exercisable only as to those shares that were immediately exercisable by such Participant at the date of termination, and Stock Options may be exercised only for a period of three months following termination and any Restricted Stock that has not vested as of the date of Termination of Service shall expire and be forfeited. (b) In the event of a Termination of Service for Cause, all Stock Options granted to a Participant that have not been exercised and all Restricted Stock granted to a Participant that has not vested shall expire and be forfeited.

(c) Upon Termination of Service for reason of Disability, death or, to the extent permitted by the Committee, Retirement, all Stock Options shall be exercisable as to all shares subject to an outstanding Award, whether or not then exercisable, and all Restricted Stock shall vest as to all shares subject to an outstanding Award, whether or not otherwise immediately vested, at the date of Termination of Service. Stock Options may be exercised for a period of one year following Termination of Service due to death, Disability or Retirement; *provided, however*, that no Stock Option shall be eligible for treatment as an ISO in the event such Stock Option is exercised more than three months following Termination of Service due to Retirement or one year following Termination of Service due to Disability and *provided, further*, in order to obtain ISO treatment for Stock Options exercised by heirs or devisees of an optionee, the optionee's death must have occurred while employed or within three months of Termination of Service.

(d) Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, no Stock Option shall be exercisable beyond the last day of the original term of such Stock Option.

(e) Notwithstanding the provisions of this Section 2.8, the effect of a Change in Control on the vesting/exercisability of Stock Options and Restricted Stock is as set forth in Article 4.

# **ARTICLE 3 - SHARES SUBJECT TO PLAN**

Section 3.1 <u>Available Shares</u>. The shares of Stock with respect to which Awards may be made under the Plan shall be shares currently authorized but unissued, currently held or, to the extent permitted by applicable law, subsequently acquired by the Company as treasury shares, including shares purchased in the open market or in private transactions.

#### Section 3.2 Share Limitations.

(a) *Share Reserve*. Subject to the following provisions of this Section 3.2, the maximum number of shares of Stock that may be delivered to Participants and their beneficiaries under the Plan shall be equal to Four Hundred Seventy-Two Thousand One Hundred Thirty-Two (472,132) shares of Stock. The maximum number of shares of Stock that may be delivered pursuant to the exercise of Stock Options (all of which may be granted as ISOs) is Three Hundred Thirty-Seven Thousand Two Hundred Thirty-Seven (337,237) shares of Stock. The maximum number of shares of Stock that may be issued as Restricted Stock Awards is One Hundred Thirty-Four Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety-Five (134,895) shares of Stock. The aggregate number of shares available for grant under this Plan and the number of shares of Stock subject to outstanding awards shall be subject to adjustment as provided in Section 3.3.

(b) *Computation of Shares Available*. For purposes of this Section 3.2, the number of shares of Stock available for the granting of additional Stock Options and Restricted Stock shall be reduced by the number of shares of Stock granted. To the extent any shares of Stock covered by an Award (including Restricted Stock) under the Plan are not delivered to a Participant or beneficiary for any reason, including because the Award is forfeited or canceled or because a Stock Option is not exercised, then such shares shall not be deemed to have been delivered for purposes of determining the maximum number of shares of Stock available for delivery under the Plan.

To the extent (i) a Stock Option is exercised by using an actual or constructive exchange of shares of Stock to pay the Exercise Price, or (ii) shares of Stock are withheld to satisfy withholding taxes upon exercise or vesting of an Award granted hereunder, the number of shares of Stock available shall be reduced by the gross number of Stock Options exercised rather than by the net number of shares of Stock issued.

# Section 3.3 Corporate Transactions.

(a) General. In the event any recapitalization, forward or reverse stock split, reorganization, merger, consolidation, spin-off, combination, repurchase, or exchange of shares of Stock or other securities, stock dividend or other special and nonrecurring dividend or distribution (whether in the form of cash, securities or other property), liquidation, dissolution, or other similar corporate transaction or event, affects the shares of Stock such that an adjustment is appropriate in order to prevent dilution or enlargement of the rights of Participants under the Plan and/or under any Award granted under the Plan, then the Committee shall, in an equitable manner, adjust any or all of (i) the number and kind of securities deemed to be available thereafter for grants of Stock Options and Restricted Stock in the aggregate to all Participants and individually to any one Participant, (ii) the number and kind of securities that may be delivered or deliverable in respect of outstanding Stock Options and Restricted Stock, and (iii) the Exercise Price of Stock Options. In addition, the Committee is authorized to make adjustments in the terms and conditions of, and the criteria included in, Stock Options and Restricted Stock (including, without limitation, cancellation of Stock Options and Restricted Stock in exchange for the in-the-money value, if any, of the vested portion thereof, or substitution or exchange of Stock Options and Restricted Stock using stock of a successor or other entity) in recognition of unusual or nonrecurring events (including, without limitation, events described in the preceding sentence) affecting the Company or any parent or Subsidiary or the financial statements of the Company or any parent or Subsidiary, or in response to changes in applicable laws, regulations, or accounting principles. Unless otherwise determined by the Committee, any such adjustment to an Award intended to qualify as "performance-based compensation" shall conform to the requirements of Code Section 162(m) and the regulations thereunder then in effect.

(b) *Merger in which Company is Not Surviving Entity.* In the event of any merger, consolidation, or other business reorganization (including, but not limited to, a Change in Control) in which the Company is not the surviving entity, unless otherwise determined by the Committee at any time at or after grant and prior to the consummation of such merger, consolidation or other business reorganization any Stock Options granted under the Plan which remain outstanding shall be converted into Stock Options to purchase voting common equity securities of the business entity which survives such merger, consolidation or other business reorganization having substantially the same terms and conditions as the outstanding Stock Options under this Plan and reflecting the same economic benefit (as measured by the difference between the aggregate Exercise Price and the value exchanged for outstanding shares of Stock in such merger; provided, however, that the Committee may, at any time prior to the consummation of such merger, consolidation or other business reorganization in exchange for a cash payment per share of Stock equal to the excess (if any) of the value exchanged for an outstanding share of Stock in such merger, consolidation or other business reorganization in exchange for a cash payment per share of Stock equal to the excess (if any) of the value exchanged for an outstanding share of Stock in such merger, consolidation or other business reorganization in exchange for a cash payment per share of Stock equal to the excess (if any) of the value exchanged for an outstanding share of Stock in such merger, consolidation or other business reorganization over the Exercise Price of the Stock Option being canceled.

Section 3.4 Delivery of Shares. Delivery of shares of Stock or other amounts under the Plan shall be subject to the following:

(a) *Compliance with Applicable Laws*. Notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan, the Company shall have no obligation to deliver any shares of Stock or make any other distribution of benefits under the Plan unless such delivery or distribution complies with all applicable laws (including, the requirements of the Securities Act), and the applicable requirements of any securities exchange or similar entity.

(b) *Certificates*. To the extent that the Plan provides for the issuance of shares of Stock, the issuance may be effected on a non-certificated basis, to the extent not prohibited by applicable law or the applicable rules of any stock exchange.

# **ARTICLE 4 - CHANGE IN CONTROL**

Section 4.1 <u>Consequence of a Change in Control</u>. Subject to the provisions of Section 2.5 (relating to vesting and acceleration) and Section 3.3 (relating to the adjustment of shares), and except as otherwise provided in the Plan or as determined by the Committee and set forth in the terms of any Award Agreement or as set forth in an employment agreement entered into by and between the Company and/or the Association and an Employee:

(a) At the time of an Involuntary Termination of Employment (as defined in Section 8.1) (or, as to a Director, Termination of Service as a Director) following a Change in Control, all Stock Options then held by the Participant shall become fully exercisable (subject to the expiration provisions otherwise applicable to the Stock Option).

(b) At the time of an Involuntary Termination of Employment (as defined in Section 8.1) (or, as to a Director, Termination of Service as a Director) following a Change in Control, all Awards of Restricted Stock described in Section 2.1(b) shall be fully earned and vested immediately. Notwithstanding the above, any Awards the vesting of which are based on satisfaction of performance-based conditions will be vested as specified in subsection (c) hereof.

(c) In the event of a Change in Control, any performance measure attached to an Award under the Plan shall be deemed satisfied as of the date of the Change in Control.

Section 4.2 <u>Definition of Change in Control</u>. For purposes of the Plan, unless otherwise provided in an Award Agreement, a "Change in Control" shall be deemed to have occurred upon the earliest to occur of the following:

(a) *Merger*. The Company or the Association merges into or consolidates with another entity, or merges another bank or corporation into the Company or the Association, and as a result, less than a majority of the combined voting power of the resulting corporation immediately after the merger or consolidation is held by persons who were stockholders of the Company or the Association immediately before the merger or consolidation;

(b) Acquisition of Significant Share Ownership. There is filed, or is required to be filed, a report on Schedule 13D or another form or schedule (other than Schedule 13G) required under Sections 13(d) or 14(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, if the schedule discloses that the filing person or persons acting in concert has or have become the beneficial owner of 25% or more of a class of the Company's or the Association's voting securities; provided, however, this clause (b) shall not apply to beneficial ownership of the Company's or the Association's voting shares held in a fiduciary capacity by an entity of which the Company directly or indirectly beneficially owns 50% or more of its outstanding voting securities;

(c) *Change in Board Composition*. During any period of two consecutive years, individuals who constitute the Company's or the Association's Board of Directors at the beginning of the two-year period cease for any reason to constitute at least a majority of the Company's or the Association's Board of Directors; provided, however, that for purposes of this clause (c), each director who is first elected by the board (or first nominated by the board for election by the stockholders) by a vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the directors who were directors at the beginning of the two-year period shall be deemed to have also been a director at the beginning of such period; or

(d) Sale of Assets. The Company or the Association sells to a third party all or substantially all of its assets.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Change in Control shall not be deemed to occur solely because any Person (the "Subject Person") acquired beneficial ownership of more than the permitted amount of the then outstanding common stock or Voting Securities as a result of a change in the number of shares of Stock or Voting Securities then outstanding, which thereby increases the proportional number of shares beneficially owned by the Subject Person; *provided, however*, that if a Change in Control would occur (but for the operation of this sentence) as a result of the acquisition of Stock or Voting Securities by the Company, and after such share acquisition by the Company, the Subject Person becomes the beneficial owner of any additional Stock or Voting Securities which

increases the percentage of the then outstanding Stock or Voting Securities beneficially owned by the Subject Person, then a Change in Control shall occur. In the event that an Award constitutes Deferred Compensation, and the settlement of, or distribution of benefits under, such Award is to be triggered solely by a Change in Control, then with respect to such Award, a Change in Control shall be defined as required under Code Section 409A, as in effect at the time of such transaction.

# **ARTICLE 5 - COMMITTEE**

Section 5.1 <u>Administration</u>. The Plan shall be administered by the members of the Compensation Committee of the Company who are Disinterested Board Members. If the Committee consists of fewer than two Disinterested Board Members, then the Board shall appoint to the Committee such additional Disinterested Board Members as shall be necessary to provide for a Committee consisting of at least three Disinterested Board Members. Any members of the Committee who do not qualify as Disinterested Board Members shall abstain from participating in any discussion to make or administer Awards that are made to Participants who at the time of consideration for such Award: (i) are persons subject to the short-swing profit rules of Section 16 of the Exchange Act, or (ii) are reasonably anticipated to be Covered Employees during the term of the Award. The Board (or those members of the Board who are "independent directors" under the corporate governance statutes or rules of any national securities exchange on which the Company lists its securities) may, in its discretion, take any action and exercise any power, privilege or discretion conferred on the Committee under the Plan with the same force and effect under the Plan as if done or exercised by the Committee.

Section 5.2 Powers of Committee. The administration of the Plan by the Committee shall be subject to the following:

(a) the Committee will have the authority and discretion to select from among the Company's and its Subsidiaries' Employees and Directors those persons who shall receive Awards, to determine the time or times of receipt, to determine the types of Awards and the number of shares covered by the Awards, to establish the terms, conditions, performance criteria, restrictions (including without limitation, provisions relating to non-competition, non-solicitation and confidentiality), and other provisions of such Awards (subject to the restrictions imposed by Article 6) to cancel or suspend Awards and to reduce, eliminate or accelerate any restrictions or vesting requirements applicable to an Award at any time after the grant of the Award.

(b) The Committee will have the authority and discretion to interpret the Plan, to establish, amend and rescind any rules and regulations relating to the Plan, and to make all other determinations that may be necessary or advisable for the administration of the Plan.

(c) The Committee will have the authority to define terms not otherwise defined herein.

(d) Any interpretation of the Plan by the Committee and any decision made by it under the Plan is final and binding on all persons.

(e) In controlling and managing the operation and administration of the Plan, the Committee shall take action in a manner that conforms to the charter and bylaws of the Company and applicable corporate law.

Section 5.3 <u>Delegation by Committee</u>. Except to the extent prohibited by applicable law, the applicable rules of a stock exchange or the Plan, or as necessary to comply with the exemptive provisions of Rule 16b-3 promulgated under the Exchange Act or Code Section 162(m), the Committee may allocate all or any portion of its responsibilities and powers to any one or more of its members and may delegate all or any part of its responsibilities and powers to any person or persons selected by it, including: (a) delegating to a committee of one or more members of the Board who are not "outside directors" within the meaning of Code Section 162(m), the authority to grant Awards under the Plan to eligible persons who are not persons with respect to whom the Company wishes to comply with Code Section 162(m); and/or (b) delegating to a committee of one or more members of the Board to a committee of one or more members of the Board to a committee of one or more members of the Board who are not persons with respect to whom the Company wishes to comply with Code Section 162(m); and/or (b) delegating to a committee of one or more members of the Board who are not then subject to Section 16 of the Exchange Act. The acts of such delegates shall be treated hereunder as acts of the Committee and such delegates shall report regularly to the Committee regarding the delegated duties and responsibilities and any Awards so granted. Any such allocation or delegation may be revoked by the Committee at any time.

Section 5.4 Information to be Furnished to Committee. As may be permitted by applicable law, the Company and its Subsidiaries shall furnish the Committee with such data and information as it determines may be required for it to discharge its duties. The records of the Company and its Subsidiaries as to a Participant's employment, termination of employment, leave of absence, reemployment and compensation shall be conclusive on all persons unless determined by the Committee to be manifestly incorrect. Subject to applicable law, Participants and other persons entitled to benefits under the Plan must furnish the Committee such evidence, data or information as the Committee considers desirable to carry out the terms of the Plan.

Section 5.5 <u>Committee Action</u>. The Committee shall hold such meetings, and may make such administrative rules and regulations, as it may deem proper. A majority of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum, and the action of a majority of the members of the Committee present at a meeting at which a quorum is present, as well as actions taken pursuant to the unanimous written consent of all of the members of the Committee without holding a meeting, shall be deemed to be actions of the Committee. Subject to Section 5.1, all actions of the Committee shall be final and conclusive and shall be binding upon the Company, Participants and all other interested parties. Any person dealing with the Committee shall be fully protected in relying upon any written notice, instruction, direction or other communication signed by a member of the Committee or by a representative of the Committee authorized to sign the same in its behalf.

#### **ARTICLE 6 - AMENDMENT AND TERMINATION**

**Section 6.1** <u>General</u>. The Board may, as permitted by law, at any time, amend or terminate the Plan, and may amend any Award Agreement, provided that no amendment or termination (except as provided in Section 2.6, Section 3.3 and Section 6.2) may cause the Award to violate Code Section 409A, or, in the absence of written consent to the change by the affected Participant (or, if the Participant is not then living, the affected beneficiary), adversely impair the rights of any Participant or beneficiary under any Award granted under the Plan prior to the date such amendment is adopted by the Board; *provided, however*, that, no amendment may (a) materially increase the benefits accruing to Participants under the Plan, (b) materially increase the aggregate number of securities which may be issued under the Plan, other than pursuant to Section 3.3, or (c) materially modify the requirements for participation in the Plan, unless the amendment under (a), (b) or (c) above is approved by the Company's stockholders.

Section 6.2 <u>Amendment to Conform to Law and Accounting Changes</u>. Notwithstanding any provision in this Plan or any Award Agreement to the contrary, the Committee may amend the Plan or any Award Agreement, to take effect retroactively or otherwise, as deemed necessary or advisable for the purpose of (i) conforming the Plan or the Award Agreement to any present or future law relating to plans of this or similar nature (including, but not limited to, Code Section 409A), or (ii) avoiding an accounting treatment resulting from an accounting pronouncement or interpretation thereof issued by the SEC or Financial Accounting Standards Board subsequent to the adoption of the Plan or the making of the Award affected thereby, which, in the sole discretion of the Committee, may materially and adversely affect the financial condition or results of operations of the Company. By accepting an Award under this Plan, each Participant agrees and consents to any amendment made pursuant to this Section 6.2 or Section 2.6 to any Award granted under the Plan without further consideration or action.

# **ARTICLE 7 - GENERAL TERMS**

#### Section 7.1 No Implied Rights.

(a) *No Rights to Specific Assets*. Neither a Participant nor any other person shall by reason of participation in the Plan acquire any right in or title to any assets, funds or property of the Company or any Subsidiary whatsoever, including any specific funds, assets, or other property which the Company or any Subsidiary, in its sole discretion, may set aside in anticipation of a liability under the Plan. A Participant shall have only a contractual right to the shares of Stock or amounts, if any, payable or distributable under the Plan, unsecured by any assets of the Company or any Subsidiary, and nothing contained in the Plan shall constitute a guarantee that the assets of the Company or any Subsidiary shall be sufficient to pay any benefits to any person.

(b) *No Contractual Right to Employment or Future Awards*. The Plan does not constitute a contract of employment, and selection as a Participant will not give any participating Employee the right to be retained in the employ of the Company or any Subsidiary or any right or claim to any benefit under the Plan, unless such right or claim has specifically accrued under the terms of the Plan. No individual shall have the right to be selected to receive an Award under the Plan, or, having been so selected, to receive a future Award under the Plan.

(c) *No Rights as a Stockholder*. Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, no Award under the Plan shall confer upon the holder thereof any rights as a stockholder of the Company prior to the date on which the individual fulfills all conditions for receipt of such rights.

**Section 7.2** <u>Transferability</u>. Except as otherwise so provided by the Committee, ISOs under the Plan are not transferable except (i) as designated by the Participant by will or by the laws of descent and distribution, (ii) to a trust established by the Participant, if under Code Section 671 and applicable state law, the Participant is considered the sole beneficial owner of the Stock Option while held in trust, or (iii) between spouses incident to a divorce or pursuant to a domestic relations order, provided, however, in the case of a transfer within the meaning of this Section 7.2(iii), the Stock Option shall not qualify as an ISO as of the day of such transfer. The Committee shall have the discretion to permit the transfer of Stock Options (other than ISOs) under the Plan; *provided, however*; that such transfers shall be limited to Immediate Family Members of Participants, trusts and partnerships established for the primary benefit of such family members or to charitable organizations, and; *provided, further*; that such transfers are not made for consideration to the Participant.

Awards of Restricted Stock shall not be transferable prior to the time that such Awards vest in the Participant.

Section 7.3 Designation of Beneficiaries. A Participant hereunder may file with the Company a written designation of a beneficiary or beneficiaries under this Plan and may from time to time revoke or amend any such designation ("Beneficiary Designation"). Any designation of beneficiary under this Plan shall be controlling over any other disposition, testamentary or otherwise (unless such disposition is pursuant to a domestic relations order); *provided, however*; that if the Committee is in doubt as to the entitlement of any such beneficiary to any Award, the Committee may determine to recognize only the legal representative of the Participant, in which case the Company, the Committee and the members thereof shall not be under any further liability to anyone.

Section 7.4 <u>Non-Exclusivity</u>. Neither the adoption of this Plan by the Board nor the submission of the Plan to the stockholders of the Company for approval shall be construed as creating any limitations on the power of the Board or the Committee to adopt such other incentive arrangements as either may deem desirable, including, without limitation, the granting of Restricted Stock or Stock Options otherwise than under the Plan or an arrangement that is or is not intended to qualify under Code Section 162(m), and such arrangements may be either generally applicable or applicable only in specific cases.

Section 7.5 <u>Award Agreement</u>. Each Award granted under the Plan shall be evidenced by an Award Agreement signed by the Participant. A copy of the Award Agreement, in any medium chosen by the Committee, shall be provided (or made available electronically) to the Participant.

Section 7.6 <u>Form and Time of Elections</u>. Unless otherwise specified herein, each election required or permitted to be made by any Participant or other person entitled to benefits under the Plan, and any permitted modification or revocation thereof, shall be filed with the Company at such times, in such form, and subject to such restrictions and limitations, not inconsistent with the terms of the Plan, as the Committee shall require.

Section 7.7 <u>Evidence</u>. Evidence required of anyone under the Plan may be by certificate, affidavit, document or other information upon which the person is acting considers pertinent and reliable, and signed, made or presented by the proper party or parties.

Section 7.8 <u>Tax Withholding</u>. Where a Participant is entitled to receive shares of Stock upon the vesting or exercise of an Award, the Company shall have the right to require such Participant to pay to the Company the amount of any tax that the Company is required to withhold with respect to such vesting or

exercise, or, in lieu thereof, to retain, or to sell without notice, a sufficient number of shares of Stock to cover the minimum amount required to be withheld. To the extent determined by the Committee and specified in an Award Agreement, a Participant shall have the right to direct the Company to satisfy the minimum required federal, state and local tax withholding by: (i) with respect to a Stock Option settled in stock, reducing the number of shares of Stock subject to the Stock Option (without issuance of such shares of Stock to the Stock Option holder) by a number equal to the quotient of (a) the total minimum amount of required tax withholding divided by (b) the excess of the Fair Market Value of a share of Stock on the exercise date over the Exercise Price per share of Stock; and (ii) with respect to Restricted Stock, withholding a number of shares (based on the Fair Market Value on the vesting date) otherwise vesting that would satisfy the minimum amount of required tax withholding. Provided there are no adverse accounting consequences to the Company (a requirement to have liability classification of an award under Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Topic 718) is an adverse consequence), a Participant who is not required to have taxes withholding require the Company to withhold in accordance with the preceding sentence as if the Award were subject to minimum tax withholding requirements.

Section 7.9 <u>Action by Company or Subsidiary</u>. Any action required or permitted to be taken by the Company or any Subsidiary shall be by resolution of its board of directors, or by action of one or more members of the Board (including a committee of the Board) who are duly authorized to act for the Board, or (except to the extent prohibited by applicable law or applicable rules of any stock exchange) by a duly authorized officer of the Company or such Subsidiary.

Section 7.10 <u>Successors</u>. All obligations of the Company under the Plan shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of any successor to the Company, whether the existence of such successor is the result of a direct or indirect purchase, merger, consolidation or otherwise, of all or substantially all of the business, stock, and/or assets of the Company.

Section 7.11 Indemnification. To the fullest extent permitted by law and the Company's governing documents, each person who is or shall have been a member of the Committee, or of the Board, or an officer of the Company to whom authority was delegated in accordance with Section 5.3, or an Employee of the Company, shall be indemnified and held harmless by the Company against and from any loss (including amounts paid in settlement), cost, liability or expense (including reasonable attorneys' fees) that may be imposed upon or reasonably incurred by him or her in connection with or resulting from any claim, action, suit, or proceeding to which he or she may be a party or in which he or she may be involved by reason of any action taken or failure to act under the Plan and against and from any and all amounts paid by him or her in settlement thereof, with the Company's approval, or paid by him or her in satisfaction of any judgment in any such action, suit, or proceeding against him or her, provided he or she shall give the Company an opportunity, at its own expense, to handle and defend the same before he or she undertakes to handle and defend it on his or her own behalf, unless such loss, cost, liability, or expense is a result of his or her own willful misconduct or except as expressly provided by statute or regulation. The foregoing right of indemnification shall not be exclusive of any other rights of indemnification to which such persons may be entitled under the Company's charter or bylaws, as a matter of law, or otherwise, or any power that the Company may have to indemnify them or hold them harmless.

Section 7.12 <u>No Fractional Shares</u>. Unless otherwise permitted by the Committee, no fractional shares of Stock shall be issued or delivered pursuant to the Plan or any Award. The Committee shall determine whether cash or other property shall be issued or paid in lieu of fractional shares or whether such fractional shares or any rights thereto shall be forfeited or otherwise eliminated.

Section 7.13 <u>Governing Law</u>. The Plan, all Awards granted hereunder, and all actions taken in connection herewith shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky without reference to principles of conflict of laws, except as superseded by applicable federal law. The federal and state courts located in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, shall have exclusive jurisdiction over any claim, action, complaint or lawsuit brought under the terms of the Plan. By accepting any award under this Plan, each Participant and any other person claiming any rights under the Plan agrees to submit himself and any legal action that the Participant brings under the Plan, to the sole jurisdiction of such courts for the adjudication and resolution of any such disputes.

Section 7.14 <u>Benefits Under Other Plans</u>. Except as otherwise provided by the Committee or as set forth in a Qualified Retirement Plan, Awards to a Participant (including the grant and the receipt of benefits) under the Plan shall be disregarded for purposes of determining the Participant's benefits under, or contributions to, any Qualified Retirement Plan, non-qualified plan and any other benefit plans maintained by the Participant's employer. The term "Qualified Retirement Plan" means any plan of the Company or a Subsidiary that is intended to be qualified under Code Section 401(a).

Section 7.15 <u>Validity</u>. If any provision of this Plan is determined to be illegal or invalid for any reason, said illegality or invalidity shall not affect the remaining parts hereof, but this Plan shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision has never been included herein.

Section 7.16 <u>Notice</u>. Unless otherwise provided in an Award Agreement, all written notices and all other written communications to the Company provided for in the Plan or in any Award Agreement, shall be delivered personally or sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid (provided that international mail shall be sent via overnight or two-day delivery), or sent by facsimile, email or prepaid overnight courier to the Company at its principal executive office. Such notices, demands, claims and other communications shall be deemed given:

(a) in the case of delivery by overnight service with guaranteed next day delivery, the next day or the day designated for delivery;

(b) in the case of certified or registered U.S. mail, five days after deposit in the U.S. mail; or

(c) in the case of facsimile or email, the date upon which the transmitting party received confirmation of receipt; *provided*, *however*; that in no event shall any such communications be deemed to be given later than the date they are actually received, provided they are actually received.

In the event a communication is not received, it shall only be deemed received upon the showing of an original of the applicable receipt, registration or confirmation from the applicable delivery service. Communications that are to be delivered by U.S. mail or by overnight service to the Company shall be directed to the attention of the Company's Chief Operating Officer and to the Corporate Secretary.

## Section 7.17 Forfeiture Events.

(a) The Committee may specify in an Award Agreement that the Participant's rights, payments, and benefits with respect to an Award shall be subject to reduction, cancellation, forfeiture or recoupment upon the occurrence of certain specified events, in addition to any otherwise applicable vesting or performance conditions of an Award. Such events include, but are not limited to, termination of employment for cause, termination of the Participant's provisions of Services to the Company or any Subsidiary, violation of material Company or Subsidiary policies, breach of noncompetition, confidentiality, or other restrictive covenants that may apply to the Participant, or other conduct of the Participant that is detrimental to the business or reputation of the Company or any Subsidiary.

(b) If the Company is required to prepare an accounting restatement due to the material noncompliance of the Company, as a result of misconduct, with any financial reporting requirement under the federal securities laws, any Participant who is subject to automatic forfeiture under Section 304 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 shall reimburse the Company the amount of any payment in settlement of an Award earned or accrued during the twelve month period following the first public issuance or filing with the SEC (whichever first occurred) of the financial document embodying such financial reporting requirement.

In addition, in the event of an accounting restatement, the Committee, in its sole and exclusive discretion, may require that any Participant reimburse the Company for all or any part of the amount of any payment in settlement of any Award granted hereunder.

# **ARTICLE 8 - DEFINED TERMS; CONSTRUCTION**

Section 8.1 In addition to the other definitions contained herein, unless otherwise specifically provided in an Award Agreement, the following definitions shall apply:

(a) "10% Stockholder" means an individual who, at the time of grant, owns stock possessing more than 10% of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock of the Company.

(b) "Award" means any Stock Option, Restricted Stock or any or all of them, or any other right or interest relating to stock or cash, granted to a Participant under the Plan.

(c) "Award Agreement" means the document (in whatever medium prescribed by the Committee) which evidences the terms and conditions of an Award under the Plan. Such document is referred to as an agreement, regardless of whether a Participant's signature is required.

(d) "Board" means the Board of Directors of the Company.

(e) If the Participant is subject to a written employment agreement (or other similar written agreement) with the Company or a Subsidiary that provides a definition of termination for "Cause," then, for purposes of this Plan, the term "Cause" shall have meaning set forth in such agreement. In the absence of such a definition, "Cause" means (i) the conviction of the Participant of a felony or of any lesser criminal offense involving moral turpitude; (ii) the commission by the Participant of a criminal or other act that, in the judgment of the Board, will likely cause substantial economic damage to the Company or any Subsidiary or substantial injury to the business reputation of the Company or any Subsidiary; (iii) the continuing willful failure of the Participant to perform his duties to the Company or any Subsidiary (other than any such failure resulting from the Participant's incapacity due to physical or mental illness) after written notice thereof; or (v) an order of a federal or state regulatory agency or a court of competent jurisdiction requiring the termination of the Participant's Service with the Company.

(f) "Change in Control" has the meaning ascribed to it in Section 4.2.

(g) "Code" means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and any rules, regulations and guidance promulgated thereunder, as modified from time to time.

(h) "Code Section 409A" means the provisions of Section 409A of the Code and any rules, regulations and guidance promulgated thereunder, as modified from time to time.

(i) "Committee" means the Committee acting under Article 5.

(j) "Covered Employee" has the meaning given the term in Code Section 162(m), and shall also include any other Employee who may become a Covered Employee before an Award vests, as the Committee may determine in its sole discretion.

(k) "Director" means a member of the Board of Directors of the Company or a Subsidiary.

(1) If the Participant is subject to a written employment agreement (or other similar written agreement) with the Company or a Subsidiary that provides a definition of "Disability" or "Disabled," then, for purposes of this Plan, the terms "Disability" or "Disabled" shall have meaning set forth in such agreement. In the absence of such a definition, "Disability" shall be defined in accordance with the Association's long-term disability plan. To the extent that an Award hereunder is subject to Code Section 409A, "Disability" or "Disabled" shall mean that a Participant: (i) is unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than twelve months; or (ii) is, by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less

than twelve months, receiving income replacement benefits for a period of not less than three months under an accident and health plan covering the Company's Employees. Except to the extent prohibited under Code Section 409A, if applicable, the Committee shall have discretion to determine if a termination due to Disability has occurred.

(m) "Disinterested Board Member" means a member of the Board who: (a) is not a current Employee of the Company or a Subsidiary; (b) is not a former employee of the Company who receives compensation for prior Services (other than benefits under a taxqualified retirement plan) during the taxable year; (c) has not been an officer of the Company; (d) does not receive remuneration from the Company or a Subsidiary, either directly or indirectly, in any capacity other than as a Director except in an amount for which disclosure would not be required pursuant to Item 404 of SEC Regulation S-K in accordance with the proxy solicitation rules of the SEC, as amended or any successor provision thereto; and (e) does not possess an interest in any other transaction, and is not engaged in a business relationship for which disclosure would be required pursuant to Item 404(a) of SEC Regulation S-K under the proxy solicitation rules of the SEC, as amended or any successor provision thereto. The term Disinterested Board Member shall be interpreted in such manner as shall be necessary to conform to the requirements of section 162(m) of the Code, Rule 16b-3 promulgated under the Exchange Act and the corporate governance standards imposed on compensation committees under the listing requirements imposed by any national securities exchange on which the Company lists or seeks to list its securities.

(n) "Employee" means any person employed by the Company or any Subsidiary. Directors who are also employed by the Company or a Subsidiary shall be considered Employees under the Plan.

(o) "Exchange Act" means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended from time to time.

(p) "Excluded Transaction" means a plan of reorganization, merger, consolidation or similar transaction that would result in the Voting Securities of the Company outstanding immediately prior thereto continuing to represent (either by remaining outstanding or by being converted into Voting Securities of the surviving corporation or any parent thereof) at least 50% of the combined voting power of the Voting Securities of the entity surviving the plan of reorganization, merger, consolidation or similar transaction (or the parent of such surviving entity) immediately after such plan of reorganization, merger, consolidation or similar transaction.

(q) "Exercise Price" means the price established with respect to a Stock Option pursuant to Section 2.2.

(r) "Fair Market Value" means, with respect to a share of Stock on a specified date:

(i) the final reported sales price on the date in question (or if there is no reported sale on such date, on the last preceding date on which any reported sale occurred) as reported in the principal consolidated reporting system with respect to securities listed or admitted to trading on the principal United States securities exchange on which the shares of Stock are listed or admitted to trading, as of the close of the market in New York City and without regard to after-hours trading activity; or

(ii) if the shares of Stock are not listed or admitted to trading on any such exchange, the closing bid quotation with respect to a share of Stock on such date, as of the close of the market in New York City and without regard to after-hours trading activity, or, if no such quotation is provided, on another similar system, selected by the Committee, then in use; or

(iii) if (i) and (ii) are not applicable, the Fair Market Value of a share of Stock as the Committee may determine in good faith and in accordance with Code Section 422 and the applicable requirements of Code Section 409A and the regulations promulgated thereunder. For purposes of the exercise of a Stock Option, Fair Market Value on such date shall be the date a notice of exercise is received by the Company, or if not a day on which the market is open, the next day that it is open.

(s) A termination of employment by an Employee Participant shall be deemed a termination of employment for "Good Reason" as a result of the Participant's resignation from the employ of the Company or any Subsidiary upon the occurrence of any of the following events following a Change in Control: (i) the failure

of the Company or Subsidiary to appoint or re-appoint or elect or re-elect the Employee Participant to the position(s) with the Company or Subsidiary held immediately prior to the Change in Control; (ii) a material change in the functions, duties or responsibilities of the Employee Participant compared to those functions, duties or responsibilities in effect immediately prior to the Change in Control; (iii) any reduction of the rate of the Employee Participant's base salary in effect immediately prior to the Change in Control; (iv) any failure (other than due to reasonable administrative error that is cured promptly upon notice) to pay any portion of the Employee Participant's compensation as and when due; (v) any change in the terms and conditions of any compensation or benefit program in which the Employee Participant participated immediately prior to the Change in Control which, either individually or together with other changes, has a material adverse effect on the aggregate value of his total compensation package; or (vi) a change in the Employee Participant's principal place of employment, without his consent, to a place that is at least 30 miles further away from the Employee Participant's principal residence prior to the Change in Control.

(t) "Immediate Family Member" means with respect to any Participant: (i) any of the Participant's children, stepchildren, grandchildren, parents, stepparents, grandparents, spouses, former spouses, siblings, nieces, nephews, mothers-in-law, fathers-in-law, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, brothers-in-law or sisters-in-law, including relationships created by adoption; (ii) any natural person sharing the Participant's household (other than as a tenant or employee, directly or indirectly, of the Participant); (iii) a trust in which any combination of the Participant and persons described in section (i) and (ii) above own more than 50% of the beneficial interests; (iv) a foundation in which any combination of the Participant and persons described in sections (i) and (ii) above control management of the assets; or (v) any other corporation, partnership, limited liability company or other entity in which any combination of the Participant and persons described in sections (i) and the persons described in sections (i) and persons described in sections (i) and (ii) above control management of the assets; or (v) any other corporation, partnership, limited liability company or other entity in which any combination of the Participant and persons described in sections (i) and (ii) above control management of the assets; or (v) any other corporation, partnership, limited liability company or other entity in which any combination of the Participant and persons described in sections (i) and (ii) above control management of the voting interests.

- (u) "Incumbent Directors" means:
  - (i) the individuals who, on the date hereof, constitute the Board; and

(ii) any new Director whose appointment or election by the Board or nomination for election by the Company's stockholders was approved or recommended: (a) by the vote of at least two-thirds of the Whole Board, with at least two-thirds of the Incumbent Directors then in office voting in favor of such approval or recommendation; or (b) by a Nominating Committee of the Board whose members were appointed by the vote of at least two-thirds of the Whole Board, with at least two-thirds of the Incumbent Directors then in office voting in favor of such approval or recommendation; or (b) by a Nominating Committee of the Board whose members were appointed by the vote of at least two-thirds of the Whole Board, with at least two-thirds of the Incumbent Directors then in office voting in favor of such appointments

(v) "Involuntary Termination of Employment" means the Termination of Service by the Company or Subsidiary (other than a termination for Cause) or termination of employment by a Participant Employee for Good Reason.

(w) "ISO" has the meaning ascribed to it in Section 2.1(a).

(x) "Non-Qualified Option" means the right to purchase shares of Stock that is either (i) granted to a Participant who is not an Employee, or (ii) granted to an Employee and either is not designated by the Committee to be an ISO or does not satisfy the requirements of Section 422 of the Code.

(y) "Participant" means any individual who has received, and currently holds, an outstanding Award under the Plan.

(z) "Restricted Stock" has the meaning ascribed to it in Section 2.3.

(aa) "Retirement" means, unless otherwise specified in an Award Agreement, retirement from employment as an Employee on or after the attainment of age 65, or Termination of Service as a Director on or after the attainment of age 70, *provided, however*, that unless otherwise specified in an Award Agreement, an Employee who is also a Director shall not be deemed to have terminated due to Retirement until both Service as an Employee and Service as a Director has ceased. A non-Employee Director will be deemed to have terminated due to

Retirement under the provisions of this Plan only if the non-Employee Director has terminated Service on the Board(s) of Directors of the Company and any Subsidiary or affiliate in accordance with applicable Company policy, following the provision of written notice to such Board(s) of Directors of the non-Employee Director's intention to retire.

(bb) "SEC" means the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

(cc) "Securities Act" means the Securities Act of 1933, as amended from time to time.

(dd) "Service" means service as an Employee, service provider, or non-employee Director of the Company or a Subsidiary, as the case may be, and shall include service as a director emeritus or advisory director.

(ee) "Stock" means the common stock of the Company, \$0.01 par value per share.

(ff) "Stock Option" means an ISO or a Non-Qualified Option.

(gg) "Subsidiary" means any corporation, affiliate, bank or other entity which would be a subsidiary corporation with respect to the Company as defined in Code Section 424(f) and, other than with respect to an ISO, shall also mean any partnership or joint venture in which the Company and/or other Subsidiary owns more than 50% of the capital or profits interests.

(hh) "Termination of Service" means the first day occurring on or after a grant date on which the Participant ceases to be an Employee or Director of, or service provider to, the Company or any Subsidiary, regardless of the reason for such cessation, subject to the following:

(i) The Participant's cessation as an Employee or service provider shall not be deemed to occur by reason of the transfer of the Participant between the Company and a Subsidiary or between two Subsidiaries.

(ii) The Participant's cessation as an Employee or service provider shall not be deemed to occur by reason of the Participant's being on a bona fide leave of absence from the Company or a Subsidiary approved by the Company or Subsidiary otherwise receiving the Participant's Services, provided such leave of absence does not exceed six months, or if longer, so long as the Employee retains a right to reemployment with the Company or Subsidiary under an applicable statute or by contract. For these purposes, a leave of absence constitutes a bona fide leave of absence only if there is a reasonable expectation that the Employee will return to perform Services for the Company or Subsidiary. If the period of leave exceeds six months and the Employee does not retain a right to reemployment under an applicable statute or by contract, the employment relationship is deemed to terminate on the first day immediately following such six month period. For purposes of this sub-section (ii), to the extent applicable, an Employee's leave of absence shall be interpreted by the Committee in a manner consistent with Treasury Regulation Section 1.409A-1(h)(1).

(iii) If, as a result of a sale or other transaction, the Subsidiary for whom Participant is employed (or to whom the Participant is providing Services) ceases to be a Subsidiary, and the Participant is not, following the transaction, an Employee of the Company or an entity that is then a Subsidiary, then the occurrence of such transaction shall be treated as the Participant's Termination of Service caused by the Participant being discharged by the entity for whom the Participant is employed or to whom the Participant is providing Services.

(iv) A service provider whose Services to the Company or a Subsidiary are governed by a written agreement with the service provider will cease to be a service provider at the time the term of such written agreement ends (without renewal); and a service provider whose Services to the Company or a Subsidiary are not governed by a written agreement with the service provider will cease to be a service provider on the date that is 90 days after the date the service provider last provides Services requested by the Company or any Subsidiary (as determined by the Committee).

(v) Except to the extent Section 409A of the Code may be applicable to an Award, and subject to the foregoing paragraphs of this sub-section (hh), the Committee shall have discretion to determine if a Termination of Service has occurred and the date on which it occurred. In the event that any Award under the Plan constitutes Deferred Compensation (as defined in Section 2.6 hereof), the term Termination of Service shall be interpreted by the Committee in a manner consistent with the definition of "Separation from Service" as defined under Code Section 409A and under Treasury Regulation Section 1.409A-1(h)(ii). For purposes of this Plan, a "Separation from Service" shall have occurred if the Association and Participant reasonably anticipate that no further Services will be performed by the Participant after the date of the Termination of Service (whether as an employee or as an independent contractor) or the level of further Services performed will be less than 50% of the average level of bona fide Services in the 36 months immediately preceding the Termination of Service. If a Participant is a "Specified Employee," as defined in Code Section 409A and any payment to be made hereunder shall be determined to be subject to Code Section 409A, then if required by Code Section 409A, such payment or a portion of such payment (to the minimum extent possible) shall be delayed and shall be paid on the first day of the seventh month following Participant's Separation from Service.

(vi) With respect to a Participant who is a director, cessation as a Director will not be deemed to have occurred if the Participant continues as a director emeritus or advisory director.

(ii) "Voting Securities" means any securities which ordinarily possess the power to vote in the election of directors without the happening of any pre-condition or contingency.

(jj) "Whole Board" means the total number of Directors that the Company would have if there were no vacancies on the Board at the time the relevant action or matter is presented to the Board for approval.

Section 8.2 In this Plan, unless otherwise stated or the context otherwise requires, the following uses apply:

(a) actions permitted under this Plan may be taken at any time and from time to time in the actor's reasonable discretion;

(b) references to a statute shall refer to the statute and any successor statute, and to all regulations promulgated under or implementing the statute or its successor, as in effect at the relevant time;

(c) in computing periods from a specified date to a later specified date, the words "from" and "commencing on" (and the like) mean "from and including," and the words "to," "until" and "ending on" (and the like) mean "to, but excluding";

(d) references to a governmental or quasi-governmental agency, authority or instrumentality shall also refer to a regulatory body that succeeds to the functions of the agency, authority or instrumentality;

(e) indications of time of day mean Eastern time;

(f) "including" means "including, but not limited to";

(g) all references to sections, schedules and exhibits are to sections, schedules and exhibits in or to this Plan unless otherwise specified;

(h) all words used in this Plan will be construed to be of such gender or number as the circumstances and context require;

(i) the captions and headings of articles, sections, schedules and exhibits appearing in or attached to this Plan have been inserted solely for convenience of reference and shall not be considered a part of this Plan nor shall any of them affect the meaning or interpretation of this Plan or any of its provisions;

(j) any reference to a document or set of documents in this Plan, and the rights and obligations of the parties under any such documents, shall mean such document or documents as amended from time to time, and any and all modifications, extensions, renewals, substitutions or replacements thereof; and

(k) all accounting terms not specifically defined herein shall be construed in accordance with GAAP.

POAGE BANKSHARES, INC. ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS FEBRUARY 19, 2013 10:00 a.m THIS PROXY IS BEING SOLICITED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE 2013 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

REVOCABLE PROXY

The undersigned hereby appoints the official proxy committee, consisting of all members of the Board of Directors who are not standing for election at the Annual Meeting, with full powers of substitution, to act as attorneys and proxies for the undersigned to vote all shares of common stock of the Company which the undersigned is entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders ("Annual Meeting") to be held at the branch office of Home Federal Savings and Loan Association located at 6628 U.S. 60, Ashland, Kentucky 41102 on February 19, 2013, at 10:00 a.m., local time. The official proxy committee is authorized to cast all votes to which the undersigned is entitled as follows:

Should the above signed be present and elect to vote at the Annual Meeting or at any adjournment thereof and after notification to the Secretary of the Company at the Annual Meeting of the stockholder's decision to terminate this proxy, then the power of said attorneys and proxies shall be deemed terminated and of no further force and effect. This proxy may also be revoked by sending written notice to the Secretary of the Company at the address set forth on the Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders, or by the filing of a later proxy prior to a vote being taken on a particular proposal at the Annual Meeting.

The above signed acknowledges receipt from the Company prior to the execution of this proxy of notice of the Annual Meeting, a proxy statement dated January 8, 2013 and the 2012 Annual Report to Stockholders.

#### PLEASE COMPLETE, DATE, SIGN, AND MAIL THIS PROXY CARD PROMPTLY IN THE ENCLOSED POSTAGE-PAID ENVELOPE OR PROVIDE YOUR INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTE VIA THE INTERNET OR BY TELEPHONE.

(Continued, and to be marked, dated and signed, on the other side)

FOLD AND DETACH HERE

POAGE BANKSHARES, INC. - ANNUAL MEETING, FEBRUARY 19, 2013

# YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT!

# Proxy Materials are available on-line at: http://www.cfpproxy.com/7069

#### You can vote in one of three ways:

 Call toll free 1-888-425-6192 on a Touch-Tone Phone. There is NO CHARGE to you for this call.

# or

Via the Internet at http://www.rtcoproxy.com/pbsk and follow the instructions.

#### or

3. Mark, sign and date your proxy card and return it promptly in the enclosed envelope.

# PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

7069

Х	PLEASE MARK VOTES AS IN THIS EXAMPLE		ANKSHARES, INC.	Annual Meeting of Stockholders FEBRUARY 19, 2013
(02) E	lection of (01) Ralph E. Cotfman, Jr. and Everette B. Gevedon, each to serve for a year term.	For hold Except		approval of the Company's Fire Against A described in the Proxy Statement
	CTION: To withhold authority to vote for any n e that nominee(s') name(s) or number(s) in		<ol> <li>The advisory (non-binding) a that stockholders will vo executive compensation ("sa</li> </ol>	te on the Company's
			<ol> <li>The approval of the Poage Incentive Plan.</li> </ol>	Bankshares, Inc. 2013 Equity
				Intment of Crowe Horwath LLP as registered public accounting firm
	01 01		The Board of Directors reco	mmends a vote "FOR" each of the listed proposals
	Share/Stockholders Name and Address		Mark here if you plan to attend	I the meeting
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ON-LINE PROXY MATERIALS: http://www.cfpproxy.com/7069

Your vote is important!

CONTROL NUMBER