

## **FIFTH DISTRICT BANCORP, INC.**

### **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES**

These Corporate Governance Principles have been approved by the Board of Directors (“Board”) of Fifth District Bancorp, Inc. (the “Company”) to promote the effective operation of the Board and to provide a framework for the conduct of the Company’s business in accordance with the highest ethical standards and in a manner intended to enhance the long-term value of the Company.

#### **A. Director Responsibilities**

The basic responsibility of the members of the Board is to exercise their business judgment to act in what they reasonably believe to be the best interests of the Company and its stockholders and in a manner that they reasonably believe will comply with applicable federal and state laws. In discharging their obligation, directors should be entitled to rely on the honesty and integrity of the Company’s senior executives and its outside advisors and auditors. Although ultimate authority resides in the Board, the Board delegates authority to management to pursue the Company’s mission. Management, not the Board, is responsible for managing the day-to-day business and affairs of the Company.

In fulfilling its responsibilities, the Board, or a Committee duly delegated, performs the following principal functions:

- Ensuring legal and ethical conduct;
- Selecting, evaluating and compensating the Chief Executive Officer (the “CEO”);
- Evaluating and compensating other members of management;
- Approving corporate strategy;
- Reviewing and approving policies for the operation of the Company;
- Providing general oversight of the business of the Company;
- Monitoring Board-established risk limits and the overall risk profile of the Company;
- Evaluating Board and Committee composition, processes and performance;
- Selecting directors; and
- Compensating directors.

## **B. Operations of the Board**

*Board Leadership.* The Chairperson of the Board will be selected from the Board. If the CEO is chosen as chairperson, the Board may, but is not required to, select a lead independent director through a Board vote. If the Board selects a lead independent director, the lead independent director will preside over executive sessions and other areas where independent directors have responsibility. If the Board does not select a lead independent director, then the independent directors shall choose a director to preside over executive sessions and other areas where independent directors have responsibility. The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Board, ensure the proper flow of information to the Board, and review the adequacy and timing of documentary material in support of agenda items; ensure adequate lead time for effective study and discussion of business under consideration; and carry out other duties as requested by the Board as a whole. Either the Chairperson or the CEO will preside at meetings of the Company's stockholders.

*Board Composition.* The Board currently has 7 members. The Board shall have no fewer members than is required by state and federal regulations as in effect at any given time. A majority of the members of the Board shall be independent directors under applicable Nasdaq Stock Market listing standards. No person may serve on the Board who does not satisfy the qualification requirements set forth in the Company's Bylaws, including the age limitation provision.

*Term Limits.* The Board does not believe it should establish term limits. Although term limits help ensure that there are fresh ideas and viewpoints available to the Board, they have the disadvantage of losing the contribution of directors who have been able to develop, over a period of time, increasing insight into the Company and its operations. As an alternative to term limits, each director will be evaluated every three years for continuation on the Board.

*Conflicts.* No director may serve on the board of another financial institution or its holding company, or any public company's board, unless such service is approved by the Board and does not violate applicable banking regulations. Directors should advise the Chairperson of the Board in advance of accepting an invitation to serve on the board of another financial institution, or its holding company, or any public company. Because of the increased time commitment involved in serving on boards of public companies, the Board believes that membership on the board of more than two other public companies would be inappropriate for a director of the Company and requires that directors receive Board approval before accepting a nomination for election as a director of more than two other public companies.

*Board Selection.* The Board of Directors shall be responsible for establishing criteria and the appropriate processes for the selection of nominees for the Board, including a policy regarding stockholder recommendation of nominees. New directors should be provided the opportunity to participate in a director orientation program.

*Board Meetings.* Directors are expected to attend Board meetings and meetings of committees on which they serve. Directors are expected to spend the time needed and meet as frequently as necessary to properly discharge their responsibilities. The Board expects that

information and data distributed in writing to members before meetings should be reviewed in advance of the meeting.

*Agendas.* The Chairperson and CEO, with input from the lead independent director, if any, will set the annual schedule of Board meetings. The Chairperson and CEO (with input from the lead independent director, if any) will establish the agenda for each Board meeting. Each Board member is free to suggest, in a timely manner, the inclusion of items on the agenda.

*Executive Sessions.* The independent directors will meet in regularly scheduled executive sessions at least two times a year.

*Strategic Planning.* The Board will review the Company's long-term strategic plans during at least one Board meeting each year. At this meeting, the Board will meet with the Company's executive management team to review the Company's business plans and discuss corporate strategy. More frequent meetings and discussions as deemed necessary or appropriate may be had with respect to strategic planning and related matters.

*Representing the Company.* The Board believes that it is appropriate that management speak and act on behalf of the Company. Individual Board members do not speak or act on behalf of the Company, absent the written approval of the Board or of the CEO.

### **C. Board Committees**

The Board will have at all times an Audit Committee, Compensation Committee, and Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee. Each member of the three committees shall be independent, and each committee shall consist of no less than three members. The Board may, from time to time, establish or maintain additional committees as deemed necessary or appropriate.

The Board of Directors shall appoint the initial members of each committee. Thereafter, at least annually, the Board of Directors shall review the composition of each committee for approval. The Board does not have a firm policy mandating rotation of committee assignments, since special knowledge or experience may mitigate in favor of a particular director serving for an extended period of time. The committee charters adopted by the Board will set forth the purposes, goals and responsibilities of the committees as well as committee structure and operations and committee reporting to the Board. Committee meetings will be scheduled by each committee as appropriate to meet its responsibilities.

The Chairperson of each committee shall preside at each committee meeting and shall regularly report to the Board as to the committee's activities and recommendations. In consultation with the appropriate members of the committee and management, the committee chairperson will develop each committee's agenda.

The committees shall periodically report to the Board on their actions and shall prepare written minutes of each committee meeting, which minutes shall be provided to the Board.

#### **D. Director Access to Officers and Employees**

Directors shall have complete and open access to officers and employees of the Company. Any meetings or contacts that a director wishes to initiate should be coordinated through the CEO, unless it is inappropriate in the circumstance to do so.

#### **E. Director Compensation**

At least annually, the Compensation Committee and/or the Board of Directors will review and consider the appropriateness of the form and amount of director compensation with a view toward attracting and retaining qualified directors. The review will consider the extent to which the Company's common stock should be a component of director compensation. The Board of Directors will also make determinations on stock ownership guidelines for directors.

#### **F. Director Orientation and Continuing Education**

All new directors should be provided the opportunity to participate in a director orientation program, which should be conducted as soon as practicable after the meeting at which a new director is elected. This orientation will include presentations by senior management, and if considered appropriate, Company counsel, to familiarize a new director with the Company's strategic plans, its significant financial, accounting and risk management issues, its compliance programs, its Code of Ethics, any conflict of interests policy and other applicable policies and procedures, its principal officers, and its internal and independent auditors. All other directors are also invited to attend the director orientation program.

All directors are encouraged to participate in continuing education programs throughout the year, including programs addressing legal, financial, regulatory and industry-specific topics, including programs sponsored by nationally recognized educational organizations not affiliated with the Company.

#### **G. CEO Evaluation, Executive Compensation and Management Succession**

Formal Evaluation of the CEO. The Board of Directors will conduct an annual review of the CEO's performance and establish the salary, bonus and other benefits of the CEO. The Board of Directors will conduct its analysis and conclusions to ensure that the CEO is providing the best leadership for the Company in the long- and short-term and that CEO compensation is appropriate. The evaluation should be based on objective criteria, including the financial performance of the Company and the qualitative performance of the CEO.

Evaluation and Compensation of Executive Management. At the beginning of each year, the CEO shall review with the Board of Directors the performance goals of the other members of executive management, and upon conclusion of each year, the CEO shall review with the Board of Directors the extent to which these officers have accomplished their previously determined goals. In consultation with the CEO, the Board of Directors shall evaluate the performance of the other members of executive management to determine the appropriate levels of compensation for such other management in terms of salary, bonus and other benefits.

Succession Planning and Management Development. The Board of Directors shall coordinate with the CEO to designate an emergency successor who could assume the CEO position if the CEO is unexpectedly unavailable for service, updating this designation as appropriate. There should also be a formalized process governing long-term management development. The CEO should report to the Board of Directors annually about the development of senior management personnel and succession planning, which shall be approved by the Board.

#### **H. Annual Performance Evaluation**

The Board and the Audit Committee will each conduct an annual self-evaluation to determine whether it and its committees are functioning effectively. The assessment of the Board's and the committee's performance will be discussed annually by the Board. The assessment should specifically address weaknesses in Board or committee structure and propose actions to be taken to correct them.

#### **I. Confidentiality**

All directors, as well as persons attending Board or committee meetings, *must* maintain absolute confidentiality regarding Board and committee discussions and decisions. Violations of this confidentiality obligation may constitute grounds for the removal of a Board member or employee for cause.

#### **J. Codes of Conduct**

The Company will at all times maintain a Code of Ethics for its directors, officers and employees. The Board of Directors will approve and periodically review a code of ethics for senior executive officers, and the Audit Committee will be responsible for establishing a procedure for handling complaints and for addressing violations of the code of ethics. The Codes of Ethics, and all amendments to and waivers, shall be approved by the Board, or, subject to applicable law by a committee thereof pursuant to authority delegated in such committee's charter. As appropriate, any existing code of ethics, conflicts of interest policy or similar policy of Fifth District Savings Bank may satisfy all or part of this requirement.

#### **K. Secretary**

Minutes of each Board meeting and committee meeting will be compiled by the Company's Secretary who shall act as Secretary to the Board and each committee, or in the absence of the Secretary, by any other person designated by the Chairperson of the Board, or by an authorized committee, as the case may be.

Adopted: June 27, 2024