

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### MANDATE AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

#### **Role and Objective**

The Board of Directors (the "Board") of Baytex Energy Corp. (the "Corporation") is responsible for the stewardship of the Corporation and any other subsidiary entities of the Corporation. In this Mandate and Terms of Reference, the Corporation and its subsidiary entities are collectively referred to as "Baytex". In discharging its responsibility, the Board will exercise the care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent person would exercise in comparable circumstances and will act honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of Baytex.

The objectives of the Board are to:

- 1. in consultation with the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation (the "<u>CEO</u>"), define the strategy and principal objectives of Baytex;
- 2. supervise the management of the business and affairs of Baytex with the goal of achieving the principal objectives of Baytex;
- 3. discharge the duties imposed on the Board by applicable laws; and
- 4. for the purpose of carrying out the foregoing responsibilities, take all such actions as the Board deems necessary or appropriate.

# **Membership of the Board**

- 1. The Board shall be comprised of not less than three members a majority of whom are "independent" directors (within the meaning of National Instrument 58-101 "Disclosure of Corporate Governance Practices") and the laws, rules and requirements of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and the New York Stock Exchange, as applicable.
- 2. The shareholders of the Corporation are entitled to nominate for election all of the members of the Board, to hold office until the close of the next annual meeting, by a vote at a meeting of shareholders. In accordance with the articles and by-laws of the Corporation, the members of the Board then in office have the authority to appoint additional directors and fill vacancies on the Board.
- 3. The members of the Board should have or obtain sufficient knowledge of Baytex and the oil and gas business to assist in providing advice and counsel on relevant issues.
- 4. Board members should offer their resignation from the Board to the Board Chair of the Board (the "Board Chair") following a change in personal circumstances which would reasonably interfere with their ability to serve as a Board member or reflect poorly on Baytex (for example, finding by a Court of fraud or conviction under Criminal Code or securities legislation).

# Mandate and Responsibilities of the Board

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Board will perform the following duties:

#### Strategic Direction and Capital and Financial Plans

- 1. Require the CEO to present annually to the Board a strategic plan and annual operating and capital plans for Baytex's business, which plans must:
  - a) be designed to achieve Baytex's principal objectives;
  - b) identify the principal strategic and operational opportunities and risks of Baytex's business; and
  - c) be approved by the Board as a pre-condition to the implementation of such plans.
- 2. Review Baytex's progress towards the achievement of the goals established in the strategic, operating and capital plans and, if necessary, revise and alter such plans in light of changing circumstances.
- 3. Approve acquisitions and dispositions in excess of expenditure limits established by the Board.
- 4. Monitor the appropriateness of Baytex's capital structure, including:
  - a) approving the borrowing of funds and the establishment of credit facilities; and
  - b) approving issuances of additional shares or other securities of the Corporation, including securities convertible into shares, to the public and any offering documents, such as prospectuses.
- 5. Approve the cash dividends to be paid on the shares of the Corporation.
- 6. Approve all matters relating to a take-over bid for the securities of the Corporation.

## **Finances and Controls**

- 1. Identify the principal risks of Baytex's business, take all reasonable steps to ensure the implementation of the appropriate systems to manage these risks and periodically evaluate the appropriateness of such, and, where appropriate, assign to a Committee of the Board oversight for a principal risk.
- 2. Ensure systems are in place for the implementation and maintenance of the integrity of Baytex's internal control and information systems, including maintenance of all required records and documentation.
- 3. In consultation with the CEO, establish the limits of management's authority and responsibility in conducting Baytex's business.
- 4. In consultation with the CEO, establish a disclosure policy for Baytex with the objective of ensuring that all financial information made public by the Corporation (including its annual and interim financial statements) is accurate and complete and fairly presents its financial position and performance.
- 5. Ensure that the financial performance of the Corporation is properly reported to shareholders, other security holders and regulators on a timely and regular basis.

- 6. Ensure that information relating to the Corporation's oil and natural gas activities is prepared and disclosed in accordance with applicable securities laws.
- 7. In consultation with the CEO, establish the ethical standards to be observed by all officers and employees of Baytex and use reasonable efforts to ensure that a process is in place to monitor compliance with those standards.
- 8. Require that the CEO institute and monitor processes and systems designed to ensure compliance with applicable laws by Baytex and its officers and employees.
- 9. Approve any material contracts to be entered into by Baytex.

#### **Human Resources**

- 1. Monitor overall human resources policies and procedures, including compensation and succession planning.
- 2. Develop a position description for the CEO.
- 3. Appoint the CEO and determine the terms of the CEO's employment with Baytex.
- 4. Evaluate the performance of the CEO at least annually.
- 5. In consultation with the CEO, appoint all officers of the Corporation and approve the terms of each officer's employment.
- 6. Develop a system under which succession to senior management positions will occur in a timely manner.
- 7. Approve any proposed significant change in the management organization structure of Baytex.
- 8. Approve all retirement plans for officers and employees of Baytex.
- 9. Review annually the adequacy and form of the compensation of directors.

#### Governance

- 1. Develop position descriptions for the Board Chair and, if applicable, the Executive Board Chair and the Lead Independent Director.
- 2. Select nominees for election to the Board.
- 3. Facilitate the continuity, effectiveness and independence of the Board by, amongst other things:
  - a) appointing a Board Chair and, if applicable, an Executive Board Chair and Lead Independent Director of the Board;
  - b) appointing from amongst the directors an audit committee and such other committees of the Board as the Board deems appropriate;
  - c) defining the mandate and terms of reference for each committee of the Board;
  - d) developing a position description for the chair of each committee of the Board

- e) ensuring that processes are in place and are utilized to assess the effectiveness of the Board Chair, Executive Board Chair and the Lead Independent Director of the Board, as applicable, the Board as a whole, each committee of the Board and each director; and
- f) establishing a system to enable any director to engage an outside adviser at the expense of the Corporation.
- 4. Review annually the composition of the Board and its committees.

#### General

- 1. The Board may delegate its duties to, and receive reports and recommendations from, any committee of the Board.
- 2. The Board shall have the authority to review any corporate report or material and to investigate any activity of Baytex and to request any employees to cooperate as requested by the Board.

## **Meetings and Administrative Matters**

- 1. At all meetings of the Board every question shall be decided by a majority of the votes cast. In case of an equality of votes, the chairman of the meeting shall be not entitled to a second or casting vote.
- 2. The Board Chair (or Executive Board Chair) shall preside at all meetings of the Board, unless the Board Chair (or Executive Board Chair) is not present, in which case the Lead Independent Director shall act as chairman for purposes of the meeting.
- 3. A quorum for meetings of the Board shall be a majority of its members. The rules for calling, holding, conducting and adjourning meetings of the Board are contained in the by-laws of the Corporation.
- 4. Meetings of the Board should be scheduled to take place at least three times per year and at such other times as the Board Chair may determine.
- 5. Agendas, approved by the Board Chair, shall be circulated to Board members along with background information on a timely basis prior to the Board meetings.
- 6. The Board may invite those officers, directors and employees of the Corporation and its subsidiary entities as it may see fit from time to time to attend at meetings of the Board and assist thereat in the discussion and consideration of the matters being considered by the Board, provided that the CEO and the Chief Financial Officer of the Corporation shall attend all meetings of the Board, unless otherwise excused from all or part of any such meeting by the chairman of the meeting.
- 7. At each meeting of the Board, an opportunity will be provided for the independent members of the Board to meet without the non-independent members of the Board and members of management being present. The independent members of the Board shall meet at least three times per year.
- 8. Minutes of the Board's meetings will be recorded and maintained and made available to any Board member upon request.
- 9. The Board may retain persons having special expertise and/or obtain independent professional advice to assist in fulfilling its responsibilities at the expense of the Corporation.