

# **HCSB FINANCIAL CORPORATION**

## **NOMINATING AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE CHARTER**

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### **Purpose**

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee (the "Nominating Committee") is appointed by the Board of Directors of HCSB Financial Corporation, ("the Company") to assist the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities. The Nominating Committee also functions as the Governance Committee of the Board of Directors of the Company's subsidiary, Horry County State Bank (the "Bank"). References to the Company in this Charter also include the Bank, and references to the Board include the Board of Directors of the Company, and of the Bank. The Nominating Committee's primary purposes are: (1) to identify, screen, recruit, and nominate director candidates to the Board; (2) develop, recommend, and oversee corporate governance policies of the Company; and (3) establish and administer processes to evaluate the effectiveness of the Board, committees, and management.

The Nominating Committee has the authority to conduct any investigation appropriate to fulfilling its responsibilities. The Nominating Committee has the ability to retain, at the Company's expense, such special legal, accounting, and other consultants and experts as it deems necessary in the performance of its duties. In addition, the Nominating Committee shall have the sole authority to retain and terminate any search firm to be used to identify director candidates, including the sole authority to approve the search firm's fees and other retention terms.

### **Committee Composition, Meetings, and Procedures**

The Nominating Committee shall consist of three or more directors, as determined by the Board, none of whom shall be executive officers or employees of the Company, and all of whom shall satisfy the independence requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, and any stock exchange listing requirements applicable to the Company. The Nominating Committee's members and chair shall be appointed by the Board on the recommendation of the Nominating Committee. If the chair is not present or designated, the members of the Nominating Committee shall serve at the pleasure of the Board and may be removed in the discretion of the Board.

The Nominating Committee shall meet at least annually, or more frequently as circumstances dictate. The Nominating Committee shall conduct its meetings in accordance with the Company's bylaws. Except as limited by law, the Nominating Committee may form subcommittees for any purpose the Nominating Committee deems appropriate and may delegate to such subcommittees such power and authority as it deems appropriate.

### **Committee Powers, Authority, Duties, and Responsibilities**

1. The Nominating Committee shall recommend to the Board criteria for the selection of new directors, evaluate the qualifications and independence of potential candidates for director, including any nominees submitted by shareholders under and in accordance with the provisions of the Company's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, and recommend to the Board a slate of nominees for election by shareholders or any person to be considered to fill a Board vacancy or a newly created directorship resulting from any increase in the authorized number of directors.
2. When considering a person to be recommended for nomination as a director of the Company, the Nominating Committee shall consider the skills and background needed by the Company and possessed by the person, diversity of the Board, and the ability of the person to devote the

necessary time to service as a director. The Nominating Committee shall also develop a list of criteria to be considered in evaluating director candidates.

3. The Nominating Committee shall recommend to the Board standards for determining director independence consistent with applicable legal or regulatory corporate governance requirements and review and assess those standards on a periodic basis. The Nominating Committee shall review the qualifications and independence of the members of the Board and its various committees on a regular periodic basis and make any recommendations it may deem appropriate concerning changes in the composition of the Board and its committees.
4. The Nominating Committee shall identify potential candidates for nomination as directors on an on-going basis, in such manner as the Nominating Committee deems appropriate.
5. The Nominating Committee shall oversee the orientation and continuing education of directors.
6. The Nominating Committee shall annually recommend to the Board director nominees for each Board committee. Recommendations should consider the qualifications of membership on each committee, the desirability of rotation among directors, and any limitation of the number of consecutive years a director should serve on a committee. The Nominating Committee shall also advise the Board on removal of any Board committee members.
7. The Nominating Committee shall receive comments from all directors and report annually to the Board on an assessment of the Board's performance, to be discussed with the Board following the end of each fiscal year. The Nominating Committee shall also establish and oversee an annual evaluation performance of management and oversee the annual self-assessment of the Board.
8. The Nominating Committee shall review and reassess at least annually the adequacy of the corporate governance principals of the Company and recommend any proposed changes to the Board for approval, including any changes in director fees and qualifications.
9. The Nominating Committee shall review and assess at least annually the Company's compliance with the corporate governance guidelines and the requirements established under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and by applicable laws and regulations.
10. The Nominating Committee shall make reports to the Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting following the meeting of the Nominating Committee accompanied by any recommendation to the Board.
11. The Nominating Committee shall review and reassess the adequacy of this charter annually and recommend any proposed changes to the Board for approval.
12. The Nominating Committee shall annually review its own performance and present to the Board an annual performance evaluation of the Nominating Committee.
13. The Nominating Committee shall have such other authority and responsibilities as may be assigned to it from time to time by the Board.