

BIGLARI HOLDINGS INC.
Form DEF 14A
July 29, 2010

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A
(Rule 14a-101)

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

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

(Amendment No.)

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

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 Rule 14a-12

BIGLARI HOLDINGS INC.
(Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

(Name of Persons(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if Other Than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- No fee required.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

Table of Contents

(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

(5) Total fee paid:

.. Fee paid previously with preliminary materials:

.. Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the form or schedule and the date of its filing.

(1) Amount previously paid:

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

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

Table of Contents

BIGLARI HOLDINGS INC.
175 East Houston Street, Suite 1300
San Antonio, Texas 78205

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

August 24, 2010

To the Shareholders of Biglari Holdings Inc.:

You are cordially invited to attend a special meeting (the "Special Meeting") of the shareholders of Biglari Holdings Inc. (the "Corporation"), to be held at Plaza Club San Antonio, 100 W. Houston, Suite 2100, San Antonio, Texas 78205, on August 24, 2010, at 1:30 p.m., CDT, for the following purposes:

1. To approve, for purposes of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, the Incentive Bonus Agreement with the intent of preserving the tax deductibility to the Corporation of the compensation payable thereunder
2. To consider and act upon one People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) shareholder proposal, if properly presented at the Special Meeting
3. To transact such other business as may properly be brought before the Special Meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof

The Board of Directors of the Corporation (the "Board") has approved and declared desirable the proposal to APPROVE the Incentive Bonus Agreement and has recommended that shareholders vote AGAINST the PETA proposal, if the proposal is properly presented at the Special Meeting.

The Board has fixed the close of business on July 12, 2010 as the record date for determining that the shareholders have the right to vote at the Special Meeting or any adjournment thereof.

You are requested to date, sign and return the enclosed proxy which is solicited by the Board. A return envelope is provided which requires no postage if mailed in the United States. If mailed elsewhere, foreign postage must be affixed.

By order of the Board of Directors

/s/ Sardar Biglari

Sardar Biglari,
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

San Antonio, Texas
July 29, 2010

Table of Contents

If you plan to attend the meeting:

If you are a shareholder of record and you plan to attend the meeting, please keep the admission ticket that is attached to the enclosed proxy card, because you must present this ticket to be admitted to the meeting. Each shareholder will be asked to present valid picture identification, such as a driver's license or passport. Shareholders who do not present an admission ticket will need to present proof of ownership of shares. Those shareholders holding shares in brokerage accounts will need to bring a copy of a brokerage statement, a legal proxy, or a letter from the broker confirming ownership of Biglari Holdings Inc.'s shares. Registration will begin at 12:00 p.m. CDT. Cameras, recording devices, and other electronic devices will not be permitted at the meeting. Please note that the question and answer session of the special meeting will be limited to agenda topics; this procedure contrasts with the annual meeting in which the Company's standing practice is to allow for a question and answer session without limitation and which can last several hours.

Table of Contents

BIGLARI HOLDINGS INC.
175 East Houston Street, Suite 1300
San Antonio, Texas 78205

PROXY STATEMENT FOR
SPECIAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS
TO BE HELD ON AUGUST 24, 2010

This proxy statement is furnished in connection with the solicitation by the Board of Directors of Biglari Holdings Inc. (hereinafter “we”, “our”, “BH”, “Corporation” or “Company”) of proxies in the accompanying form for the Special Meeting of Shareholders to be held at Plaza Club San Antonio, 100 W. Houston, Suite 2100, San Antonio, Texas 78205, on August 24, 2010 at 1:30 p.m., CDT, and at any adjournment or postponement thereof (the “Special Meeting”). This proxy statement and the enclosed form of proxy were first sent to shareholders on or about July 29, 2010.

Solicitation of proxies may be made by mail and through telephonic or telegraphic communications to, or by meetings with, shareholders or their representatives by directors, officers and other employees of the Corporation who will receive no additional compensation for this service. In addition, the Corporation has engaged Morrow & Co., LLC (“Morrow”) to act as our proxy solicitation agent. Morrow will be paid a fee of \$6,000 and will be reimbursed for disbursements made on our behalf. You may obtain information from Morrow as follows: 470 West Avenue—3rd Floor, Stamford, CT 06902; banks and brokerage firms, please call (203) 658-9400; shareholders please call (800) 607-0088. The cost of preparing, printing and mailing this proxy statement and the accompanying form of proxy, and the cost of soliciting proxies related to the Special Meeting, will be borne by the Corporation. The Corporation will reimburse brokerage firms, banks, trustees and others for their actual out-of-pocket expenses in forwarding proxy material to the beneficial owners of the common stock, stated value \$0.50 per share (the “Common Stock”), of the Corporation.

As of the close of business on July 12, 2010, the record date for the Special Meeting (the “Record Date”), the Corporation had outstanding and entitled to vote 1,433,525 shares of Common Stock. Each share of Common Stock is entitled to one vote per share on all matters submitted to a vote of shareholders of the Corporation. Only shareholders of record at the close of business on the Record Date are entitled to vote at the Special Meeting.

The presence at the Special Meeting, in person or by proxy, of the holders of Common Stock holding in the aggregate a majority of the voting power of the Corporation’s stock entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Approval of Proposal 1 requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of Common Stock present and cast on this proposal. Approval of the shareholder proposal requires that it be properly presented at the Special Meeting and that more votes are cast in favor of the proposal than are cast against it. Abstentions and broker non-votes will be counted as present and entitled to vote and included for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present at the Special Meeting. Abstentions and broker non-votes will not count as votes cast for the proposals and, accordingly, will have no effect on the outcome of the proposals.

Table of Contents

Shareholders that submit a proxy may revoke their proxy or change their vote at any time prior to the Special Meeting by: (1) sending a written revocation to the Secretary of the Corporation; (2) submitting a new proxy bearing a later date in accordance with the instructions on your proxy card or provided by your broker or bank; or (3) attending the Special Meeting and voting your shares in person. Shareholders who send in proxies but attend the Special Meeting in person may vote directly if they prefer and withdraw their proxies or may allow their proxies to be voted with the similar proxies sent in by other shareholders.

Under Indiana law, our shareholders are not entitled to appraisal rights or other similar rights in connection with any of the proposals to be voted upon at the Special Meeting.

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON AUGUST 24, 2010.

The Proxy Statement for the Special Meeting of Shareholders to be held on August 24, 2010 is available at www.biglariholdings.com/specialmeeting.

Table of Contents

PROPOSAL ONE:

APPROVAL OF THE TAX DEDUCTIBILITY WITHIN THE
INCENTIVE BONUS AGREEMENT

The Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee (the “Committee”), which consists entirely of outside, non-employee directors of the Corporation, has approved, subject to shareholder approval, and recommends to our shareholders the approval of the Incentive Bonus Agreement attached to this proxy statement as Annex A (the “Incentive Agreement”). We are asking shareholders to approve the Incentive Agreement only for the purpose of complying with Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (“Section 162(m)"). Sanctioning the Incentive Agreement will enable the Company to preserve the tax deductibility of the compensation payable under the Incentive Agreement.

Background of the Proposal

Biglari Holdings Inc. (“BH”, the “Company” or the “Corporation”) has been restructured as a diversified holding company whose objective is to maximize per-share intrinsic value through investments, acquisitions, and subsidiary operations. The Company’s most important operating subsidiaries are engaged in investment management and the franchising and operating of restaurants. All investment and capital allocation decisions are made for the Company by Sardar Biglari, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the holding company and its main operating subsidiaries.

In addition, Mr. Biglari has also served as the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Biglari Capital Corp. (“BCC”), a Texas corporation, since its inception in 2000. BCC is the general partner of The Lion Fund, L.P. (“Lion Fund”), an investment fund organized as a limited partnership under the laws of the State of Delaware. The Lion Fund is a private, professionally managed investment fund whose objective is to achieve above-average, long-term growth of capital. All investment and capital allocation decisions are made for the Lion Fund by Mr. Biglari, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of BCC.

On April 30, 2010, the Company announced that it had entered into an agreement with Mr. Biglari to purchase his entire interest in BCC for \$1.00, exclusive of the adjusted capital balance of BCC through the date. The majority of the proceeds from the adjusted capital balance — net of taxes — Mr. Biglari reinvested in the Lion Fund, thereby increasing his investment as a limited partner. His reinvestment in the Lion Fund came on the same valuation date, April 30, 2010.

The transaction was approved on behalf of the Company by the Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee of the Board of Directors of the Company, which is composed of outside, non-employee directors. In the course of reaching its decision concerning the BCC acquisition, the Committee acknowledged the Company’s strategic interest in building its asset management business as part of the Company’s overall corporate plan of owning businesses in whole or in part with the expectation of producing high risk-adjusted returns. The inclusion of the Lion Fund is a principal element for the pursuit of BH’s strategy since it provides a source of capital for investment. The Committee believes that Mr. Biglari is integral to developing the investment management business and creating long-term value through the holding company structure. Further, the Committee was and still is convinced that it was critical for Mr. Biglari to focus exclusively on BH’s long-term interests and that potential conflicts arising from his BCC relationship should be eliminated.

Table of Contents

Therefore, the Committee considered a wide range of factors, including, among others, its judgment that combining the operations of the Corporation and of the Lion Fund would more closely harmonize the interests of the Corporation's public shareholders and the Lion Fund's limited partners. The Committee firmly believes its decision is further supported by potential long-term efficiencies that can be achieved as a result of the combined capital resources of the Corporation and of the Lion Fund, including the potential to seek investments in target companies which could garner higher returns on the investments. The Company is committed to growing its asset management business, which currently has, through BH's subsidiaries, approximately \$130 million in assets under management. Mr. Biglari and the acquisition of BCC are vital to fulfilling the Company's plans to enlarge its asset management division. Moreover, the Committee recognizes that the value of the Company's shares is directly attributable to Mr. Biglari's decisions in capital allocation and management of the restaurant operations.

In light of BH's restructuring as a diversified holding company, its new business strategy, and the Lion Fund transaction, Mr. Biglari's duties have increased substantially after he initially joined the Company. Since Mr. Biglari assumed the CEO position, he has led the major turnaround of the Steak n Shake restaurant chain, reduced debt, enlarged sales, reduced expenses, increased operating and free cash flow, improved operating margins, improved working capital management, orchestrated the transformation of the Company, and generated investment profits for the Company. During this progress, he has created significant shareholder value in a recessionary environment coupled with a period of negative equity returns. In recognition of Mr. Biglari's expanded and significant role as well as his agreement to fold BCC into BH, the Committee decided to redesign his compensation arrangement to coincide more sensibly with his numerous operating and capital-allocation responsibilities. Furthermore, the Company and the Committee espouse a results-oriented, pay-for-performance incentive system that reflects its entrepreneurial culture. To assure a fair, objective, and reasoned compensation system, the Committee retained Towers Watson to assist in formulating an appropriate incentive compensation arrangement. The Committee firmly believes it has designed a compensation system that is rational, innovative, and equitably aligned with shareholder interests. In essence, the rationale underlying the remuneration plan emphasizes that pay is based upon performance, is in line with the compensation paid by the Company's peer group, and has resulted in the BCC acquisition. The Company entered into the Incentive Agreement with Mr. Biglari on April 30, 2010.

Table of Contents

The Economic Terms of the Incentive Agreement

The following summary encapsulates the major economic provisions of the Incentive Agreement, a copy of which is attached to this proxy statement as Annex A. Shareholders are urged to read the text of the Incentive Agreement in its entirety.

Incentive Formula. The Incentive Agreement establishes a performance-based annual incentive payment to Mr. Biglari contingent on the growth of the Corporation's adjusted book value in each fiscal year. If the Corporation exceeds a 5% annual adjusted book value growth hurdle, Mr. Biglari would receive incentive compensation equal to 25% of the Corporation's growth in adjusted book value in excess of that measuring point. For purposes of the Incentive Agreement, the Corporation's book value is determined by the Corporation's net income and other comprehensive income, on a consolidated basis, excluding dividends, shares issuances or buybacks, and other factors unrelated to Mr. Biglari's exhibited performance. For example, shares issuances for the acquisition of businesses or assets, in and of themselves, will not increase Mr. Biglari's incentive compensation for any year or any successive years. Thus, the pay is linked to economic progress. Calculation of increased book value and the incentive compensation payments to Mr. Biglari under the Incentive Agreement are subject to the approval of the Committee.

High Water Mark. Under the Incentive Agreement, Mr. Biglari will not receive incentive compensation under the Incentive Agreement unless the Corporation's book value exceeds the previous highest level in book value, or the "high water mark," plus a 5% growth in book value, i.e., the hurdle rate (which has been corrected in the Incentive Agreement attached as Annex A to this proxy statement to clarify that the hurdle rate is not cumulative). As such, in a fiscal year in which book value declines, the marker for subsequent fiscal years will require the complete recovery of the deficit from the last high water mark plus attaining the stated 5% hurdle rate before Mr. Biglari is eligible for a bonus.

Purchase of Common Stock. The Incentive Agreement provides that Mr. Biglari will use an amount equal to at least 30% of his annual pre-tax incentive compensation to purchase shares of BH's common stock on the open market within 120 calendar days of his receipt of such payment, subject to restrictions under the Corporation's insider trading policy. This requirement represents approximately 50% of his after-tax incentive compensation. Mr. Biglari is then required to hold such shares for a minimum of three years from the date of purchase, subject to the terms of the Incentive Agreement.

Compensation Objectives

In reaching its decision to approve the Incentive Agreement, the Committee determined that the agreement satisfied each of the objectives it set below. Mr. Biglari's compensation arrangement was tailored to fulfill the following seven objectives:

1. Alignment with Shareholders – Mr. Biglari's interests should be aligned with those of the shareholders. He should have a strong economic incentive to build long-term business value and thereby create shareholder value.

The Incentive Agreement is devised to spur sustainable growth in adjusted book value. The Committee adheres to the principle that return on equity from operations along with investment gains are the primary drivers of the overall value of the Company; therefore, Mr. Biglari's compensation would be correlated with such value. The Incentive Agreement is symmetrical: The lower the performance, the lower the pay; the higher the performance, the higher the pay. As described in more detail later in the proxy statement, the Committee designated adjusted book value growth as the best measure of sustained value creation because it includes operating earnings/losses as well as unrealized gains/losses on investments. The high water mark, stock purchase requirement, and three-year holding constraints are incorporated to underscore the long-term orientation of the plan. In addition, Mr. Biglari has the majority of his net worth placed in

the Company's stock — and has committed to maintaining such a position — which ensures that his decisions will be made with a long-term view. Consequently, the alignment test is satisfied because Mr. Biglari participates in both the upside and downside of the Company's performance.

Table of Contents

2. Appropriateness – Mr. Biglari should be compensated for his combined responsibilities as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of a diversified holding company. His compensation should acknowledge and be in keeping with the expansion of his responsibilities from the time he joined the Company. His total remuneration should be commensurate with that of executives at other like companies.

Under the Incentive Agreement, Mr. Biglari's compensation would be competitive with that of a group of similarly situated chief executives. The Committee analyzed the shareholders' returns and the remuneration of chief executives of similarly-sized restaurant companies as well as a peer group consisting of the remuneration of chief executives of a blend of restaurant companies and asset management/diversified companies of comparable size. The Committee also analyzed the historical book value returns of both BH and the S&P 1500 to judge compensation potential under various scenarios. The Committee, through its analyses, is confident that the proposed compensation appropriately remunerates Mr. Biglari for his role and obligations, which is also in-line with the compensation of chief executives in the peer group.

3. Equitability concerning Lion Fund Transaction – Mr. Biglari's compensation should, at least partially, be viewed in light of the opportunity cost and remuneration which he gave up through the Lion Fund transaction.

The Committee believes that the Incentive Agreement for Mr. Biglari is competitive with that of the peer group without factoring in the material benefits of the Lion Fund transaction to the Company and its costs to Mr. Biglari. However, once the Lion Fund is taken into account for both its direct potential for gain in earnings and indirectly for Mr. Biglari's contribution in advancing the asset management business, the Committee recognizes the value that it believes Mr. Biglari will create for the Company. The Committee also realizes that Mr. Biglari is giving up a personal income stream as a result of the Lion Fund transaction. It views the Incentive Agreement both as competitive and in recognition of the lost opportunity cost to Mr. Biglari when he sold his investment company to BH for \$1.00 (exclusive of adjusted capital balance). As sole shareholder of BCC, Mr. Biglari was entitled to 25% of the fund's investment income above a 5% hurdle. Yet because of the BCC acquisition, the Company is currently the sole shareholder of BCC and is therefore entitled to its earnings.

Table of Contents

4. Pay for Performance – The compensation program should correlate pay with performance. Common pay vehicles like discretionary bonuses, stock options, time-vested shares, perquisites, and benefits should be eliminated because the Committee believes that these conventional incentives (e.g., stock options, restricted stock, etc.) do not closely relate to shareholder value creation.

The members of the Committee believe that the Incentive Agreement is straightforward because it is cash based and is logical because it is tied to the performance of the Company. Most CEOs of public companies receive compensation, in addition to base salary, that is not altogether performance based; this additional pay may include discretionary bonuses, stock options, time-vested shares, or other perquisites and benefits. However, the Company put a moratorium on the issuance of stock options because, in its opinion, options link pay to stock price volatility, which may not be associated with the performance of the Company. Consequently, the Committee believes that the Incentive Agreement is much more performance-oriented than the traditional executive compensation model. This kind of arrangement, in the Committee's viewpoint, is right for BH.

5. Reduction of Conflicts of Interests – Mr. Biglari should focus on BH's long-term success. The potential for conflicts of interest arising over Mr. Biglari's compensation arrangement with BCC should be nullified.

Potential conflicts are mitigated and/or avoided by the consolidation of Mr. Biglari's sources of income under a single compensation program. Mr. Biglari was earning higher pay through BCC than he was through the Company. After the Company's acquisition of BCC, Mr. Biglari's business and investment activities are now conducted through the Company for the benefit of all its shareholders and partners.

6. No Dilution of Shareholder Ownership – The compensation program should not increase the number of shares outstanding, which would dilute a shareholder's ownership in the Company.

Instead of delivering a portion of Mr. Biglari's incentive pay directly in shares or derivatives of shares, which would increase the number of outstanding shares, he will be required to allocate at least 30% of his pre-tax incentive payouts (or approximately 50% on an after-tax basis) to purchase shares on the open market. The Company's policy is to limit increases in number of shares outstanding except in cases of issuing stock in acquisitions or for the raising of equity capital.

7. Mitigation of Risks – The compensation program should not create undue risks to the Company and should be able to limit potential hazards.

The Incentive Agreement was specifically designed to mitigate and/or prevent risks with compensation. The Incentive Agreement incorporates adjustments to book value for share buybacks, share issuances, accounting adoptions, etc. to prevent remuneration beyond Mr. Biglari's performance. (Adjustments to book value, for instance, would include such circumstances as gains on a bargain purchase price arising from the application of SFAS 141 (R) to a business acquisition.) In essence, the spirit of the Committee's plan is to make adjustments to book value so that Mr. Biglari is not compensated for noneconomic gain. Furthermore, the Committee believes that the risk of Mr. Biglari's taking action to boost short term growth in book value at the detriment of the long-term health of the Company is vitiated by the fact that the majority of his net worth lies in the Company's stock. In addition, his three-year stock holding requirement, along with the high-water mark tenet, is intended to promote substantial and sustainable shareholder value.

Table of Contents

The Committee deems that the Incentive Agreement has fulfilled the above objectives and, most important, has structured a proper pay-for-performance arrangement to compensate Mr. Biglari, who is singularly accountable for the overall performance of the Company. The Committee believes that the Incentive Agreement is in the best interests of the Company's stockholders. The Committee, which consists entirely of independent directors, has sole authority for monitoring and administering the Incentive Agreement.

Book Value vs. Intrinsic Value vs. Market Value

Book value is akin to shareholders' equity or net worth, computed as assets minus liabilities. Book value is a construct of the past, based on what shareholders have invested and reinvested in the business. This value represents the capital that management has to invest. Book value will increase by the retention of earnings and unrealized gains on marketable securities (after the effect of income tax, reflecting the amount of taxes that would be paid if gains were realized). What concerns the Company's management and board, however, is intrinsic value, a construct of the future based on the future cash flows from the business. The Committee's belief is that the gain in per-share intrinsic value will eventually be reflected in the Company's stock price. Because book value is easy to calculate whereas intrinsic value is subjective, the Committee has concluded that the gain in adjusted book value is a reasonable, albeit conservative, proxy for gain in intrinsic value. Thus, the Committee resolved that per-share book value growth is the most valid measure of the progress of the business because book value includes operating earnings/losses as well as unrealized gains/losses on investments. For the purposes of figuring the payout under the Incentive Agreement, adjustments are made to book value growth to reflect true economic gain; such modifications include the adoption of accounting provisions, share buybacks, share issuances, dividends, and other miscellaneous non-performance items.

Shareholder Return/Remuneration Linkage

Mr. Biglari is the only person at the Company with managerial responsibility for BH's entire business. The Incentive Agreement is structured to connect Mr. Biglari's pay to his accomplishments. It is the Company's viewpoint that no better barometer of value creation exists over the very long haul than stock price. The Company will measure over the very long term its stock price compared to the S&P 500 Index in order to assess the level of value added by Mr. Biglari.

Table of Contents

When Mr. Biglari assumed the CEO position on August 5, 2008, the Company's stock was \$144.00 (split adjusted) and the S&P 500 Index stood at 1,285. As of June 15, 2010, BH's stock price was \$320.82 versus 1,115 for the S&P. The Committee maintains that BH's stock price on August 5, 2008 reflected that the Company was in a precarious business and financial position.

Relative Shareholder Returns

	August 5, 2008	June 15, 2010	Gain/Loss
Company's Stock Price	\$144	\$321	123%
S&P 500 Index	1,285	1,115	(13)%

Peer Group Analysis

When designing Mr. Biglari's incentive arrangement, the Committee examined carefully market data provided by Towers Watson regarding the total remuneration of chief executives in a peer group of 36 companies, which consisted of restaurants, asset managers, and diversified holding companies. These executives carried out responsibilities similar in scope to Mr. Biglari's. The peer group was composed of 18 quick-service and casual-dine restaurants and 18 asset management firms and diversified holding companies. On the basis of annual sales, market capitalization, and total assets, the selected companies were of a similar size to BH. The Committee concluded that Mr. Biglari's compensation should be comparable to the total remuneration of chief executives of both restaurants and investment capital firms because of his dual responsibilities and duties which encompass restaurant operations and capital allocation and investment management.

Because of the Company's strategic direction and business model, the Committee reviewed the pay practices and fee structures of a broad group of investment companies. The most common type of incentive arrangement was based on a percentage of returns or gains above a predetermined hurdle rate. The Committee noted that this type of arrangement resembled Mr. Biglari's compensation arrangement as Chairman and Chief Executive of BCC prior to the Lion Fund transaction.

While the full peer group, in the Committee's opinion, is more reflective of Mr. Biglari's responsibilities, the Committee acknowledged that in the last two years since Mr. Biglari assumed the roles of Chairman and CEO, the Company's operations were concentrated in the restaurant sector; therefore, the Committee reviewed the value created under Mr. Biglari's leadership compared to that of the restaurant industry.

The table below provides the two-year (2008 and 2009) aggregate and average total remuneration and stock price return for the period August 5, 2008 through June 15, 2010 for the 18 restaurant-based peer companies. This review period begins at the date of Mr. Biglari's appointment as CEO.

Table of Contents

Company	Total Shareholder Return from August 5, 2008 thru June 15, 2010	Aggregate 2008 & 2009 Total Remuneration	Average 2008 & 2009 Total Remuneration
Biglari Holdings	123%	\$1,242,749	\$621,375
Chipotle	111%	\$14,232,869	\$7,116,435
Cracker Barrel	95%	\$8,189,971	\$4,094,986
Landry's	72%	\$6,520,212	\$3,260,106
Cheesecake Factory	68%	\$5,577,345	\$2,788,673
Panera Bread	67%	\$5,511,033	\$2,755,517
Texas Roadhouse	46%	\$5,068,800	\$2,534,400
Ruby Tuesday	44%	\$13,248,927	\$6,624,464
DineEquity	41%	\$2,923,209	\$1,461,605
California Pizza Kitchen	22%	\$2,722,661	\$1,361,331
Bob Evans	1%	\$5,789,109	\$2,894,555
Dennys	0%	\$4,681,111	\$2,340,556
CKE Restaurants	-1%	\$12,951,968	\$6,475,984
Domino's Pizza	-3%	\$5,998,383	\$2,999,192
Jack in the Box	-5%	\$15,815,492	\$7,907,746
Papa John's	-15%	\$2,919,643	\$1,459,822
Wendy's / Arby's Group	-18%	\$8,955,744	\$4,477,872
Red Robin	-22%	\$4,807,113	\$2,403,557
Sonic	-39%	\$2,520,463	\$1,260,232

Note: Total remuneration as reported in the most recent Summary Compensation Table of each peer company. The shareholder return performance data assumes reinvestment of dividends.

The table above shows that BH has yielded the highest stock price return among the restaurant-based peer companies during this time while, in contrast, the remuneration for Mr. Biglari was the lowest. Although the Committee believes that a blended peer group is more appropriate, it noted that under the incentive formula, Mr. Biglari's total remuneration would be in line with the restaurant peer group norms.

Without factoring in the Lion Fund's contribution, under the incentive formula, Mr. Biglari's total remuneration will be aligned with the 36 company peer group norms (within the middle 3 quintiles of the peer group) when the Company's annual book value growth is between 8% and 17%. His compensation will be in the lower ranges of the peer group when advances in annual book value are below 8% and in the upper ranges of the peer group when book value growth is above 17%. The following table shows the expected relationship between Mr. Biglari's total remuneration and the Company's annual book value gain in the first year of the Incentive Agreement:

Table of Contents

Annual Adjusted Book Value Growth	Percentile of 10-Year S&P 1500 Historical Achievement	Estimated Resulting Total Remuneration for Mr. Biglari: (Percentile of Peer Group Total Remuneration)
20%	72nd	90th
19%	70th	86th
18%	69th	82nd
17%	67th	80th
16%	65th	75th
15%	62nd	69th
14%	60th	67th
13%	58th	63rd
12%	56th	54th
11%	53rd	49th
10%	51st	43rd
9%	48th	40th
8%	45th	23rd
7%	43rd	9th
6%	40th	3rd
5%	37th	Lowest
4%	35th	Lowest
3%	32nd	Lowest
2%	30th	Lowest
1%	28th	Lowest
0%	26th	Lowest

As the table indicates, the Incentive Agreement has been mapped so that Mr. Biglari's compensation will be relative to performance and peer group remuneration. Mr. Biglari's total earnings will be the lowest of the peers' when BH's yearly book value growth is equal to or below 5%. If BH's annual book value growth were to equal the past 10-year median of the S&P 1500 (roughly 10%), Mr. Biglari's total earned compensation (base salary plus incentive compensation payout) would be slightly below the median of the peer group's remuneration.

The Committee also considered BH's historical and potential book value growth. As previously discussed, threshold book value must grow more than 5% to trigger incentive payouts. However, total remuneration will not be competitive with the peer group median until annual book value growth is above 11%. Over the past three years, BH's annual adjusted book value growth has been below the 5% threshold. Furthermore, had the Incentive Agreement been in effect since 2001, Mr. Biglari's average annual incentive payout would have been below the median peer group's pay (including the median pay of restaurant-based peer groups) and, with respect to fiscal 2009, Mr. Biglari would not have received an incentive bonus payment as the Company's adjusted book value growth did not exceed the 5% hurdle rate. The recent history of BH's book value growth suggests that to achieve 11% or higher annual growth rates will be a challenge. (In addition, the Company's adjusted book value gains have historically lagged behind growth in book values.) Because the Company has delegated capital allocation responsibility to Mr. Biglari and because the Company's strategy is to redeploy its cash with flexibility, the improvement in adjusted book value will be predicated on the effectiveness of Mr. Biglari's allocation of capital.

Notwithstanding the aforementioned, in the Committee's opinion, the analysis of compensation without factoring in the acquisition of BCC would be incomplete. The Committee believes that growing BH's asset management business is a critical element of the Company's long-term strategy. Folding the Lion Fund into BH was an essential factor in

putting in play the Company's plan to build the Company's asset management business. As the investment manager of the Lion Fund and steward of its 10-year track record, the Committee views Mr. Biglari as essential to successfully enlarging the asset management business. Furthermore, Mr. Biglari relinquished a valuable income stream to BH by giving up his claim on fees generated by BCC. When contemplating the terms of the Incentive Agreement, the Committee recognized the long-term advantages of Mr. Biglari's folding the Lion Fund into BH. Consequently, the Committee examined the implications of the Lion Fund transaction:

9

Table of Contents

Lost Remuneration and Opportunity Cost to Mr. Biglari. Under his fee arrangement with BCC, Mr. Biglari received 25% of the Lion Fund's investment income above a 5% return over the prior high water mark. Since the fund's inception, the Lion Fund's asset base has been growing, indicating that Mr. Biglari's compensation would increase proportionately, assuming positive returns. Mr. Biglari gave up this significant personal income opportunity when the Lion Fund was folded into BH. This income will now flow directly to the Company for the benefit of all shareholders.

The following table projects Mr. Biglari's potential compensation for managing the Lion Fund under his former arrangement with BCC. The analysis assumes a conservative capital infusion of \$50 million over five years and annual returns of 12% to 20%, assumptions consistent with the history of the Lion Fund's performance.

Investment Return	(\$M) *				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
12%	\$1.1	\$1.3	\$1.6	\$2.0	\$2.4
15%	\$1.5	\$2.0	\$2.5	\$3.0	\$3.7
17.5%	\$1.9	\$2.5	\$3.2	\$4.0	\$4.9
20%	\$2.4	\$3.1	\$4.0	\$5.0	\$6.2

*Analysis provided by KPMG.

Result of Lion Fund Transaction: the Hurdle Rate is Effectively Higher. For Mr. Biglari to earn incentive compensation equal to the income opportunity he yielded to BH, the Company's annual book value gain would need to range from 6.5% to 10.6%. This is the level of sustained annual book value growth requisite for Mr. Biglari to break even on the Lion Fund transaction. As a result, the effective hurdle rate of the Incentive Agreement is actually higher than 5%. The Company must attain adjusted book value growth of 12.8% to 14.7% to replace Mr. Biglari's lost income stream and deliver total remuneration equal to the median of the peer group.

The following table shows the annual book value growth that is required to equal Mr. Biglari's projected income as manager of the Lion Fund, without including any compensation he would have earned for his responsibilities to BH.

Annual Book Value Growth Required to Earn Equivalent Incentive Compensation
Effective Hurdle Rate

Investment Return	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
12%	6.5%	6.6%	6.8%	7.0%	7.2%
15%	7.1%	7.5%	7.8%	8.0%	8.3%
17.5%	7.6%	8.1%	8.6%	9.0%	9.4%
20%	8.3%	8.8%	9.4%	10.0%	10.6%

*Assumptions: \$50 million in capital raised over the next five years; the fund's annual returns ranging from 12% to 20%; BH's total shareholder equity increment of 11% per annum.

Table of Contents

The Committee feels confident that the incentive formula is a suitable stand-alone compensation for Mr. Biglari because it is competitive with that of the peer group and is results-oriented. The Committee also believes that the 5% hurdle rate, 25% sharing percentage and payout aspects of the Incentive Agreement are adequate, warranted, and reasonable in light of Mr. Biglari's decision to provide BH a valuable, growing, and uncapped income stream that will serve as a springboard to develop an asset management business. It is the opinion of the Committee that, taken together, the Lion Fund transaction and the Incentive Agreement are in the best interests of BH's shareholders.

The Committee believes that Mr. Biglari has created consequential value and that the Incentive Agreement would compensate him fittingly in relation to the value he creates for the Company. The Committee members steadfastly adhere to their collective judgment that the Incentive Agreement properly structures the environment for Mr. Biglari to pursue the goal of above-average returns for stockholders. As a corollary, the Committee believes that shareholders' approval of the Incentive Agreement is critical to maximizing shareholder value. Consequently, the Committee has constructed an innovative system not because of its originality but because its members believe that it has set compensation in a manner that would accrue the optimal results for shareholders.

Termination Events Under the Incentive Agreement

The Incentive Agreement remains in effect as long as Mr. Biglari remains the Chief Executive Officer of the Company. Mr. Biglari does not have an employment agreement with the Corporation, and the Incentive Agreement would not alter his at-will employment arrangement with the Company.

If, on or prior to the third anniversary of the Incentive Agreement, there is a change in control of the Corporation, Mr. Biglari is terminated by the Corporation without "cause" or Mr. Biglari resigns for "good reason," Mr. Biglari has the option, exercisable within 30 days after the occurrence of any such event, to repurchase BCC from the Corporation for a purchase price equal to BCC's adjusted capital balance, in its capacity as general partner of the Lion Fund, through the repurchase date, less any distributions in respect of such amount previously received by the Corporation.

If the option described in the preceding paragraph expires unexercised after three years, and after such time there is a change in control of the Corporation, Mr. Biglari is terminated by the Corporation without "cause" or Mr. Biglari resigns for "good reason," Mr. Biglari will be entitled to receive a severance payment equal to 299% of the average annual cash compensation (consisting of his base salary and incentive compensation) paid to him since the date of the Incentive Agreement, subject to reduction to the extent necessary so that no portion of the severance payment will be subject to the excise tax imposed by Section 4999 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

In addition, the Incentive Agreement will terminate if the Company's shareholders do not approve the agreement for purposes of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code at the Special Meeting. If shareholder approval of the Incentive Agreement is not obtained, Mr. Biglari has the option, exercisable within 30 days after the Special Meeting, to repurchase BCC for a purchase price equal to the sum of (i) \$1.00 plus (ii) an amount equal to BCC's adjusted capital balance, in its capacity as general partner of the Lion Fund, through the repurchase date, less any distributions in respect of such amounts previously received by the Corporation.

Table of Contents

Reason for Shareholder Approval

Section 162(m) generally disallows a federal income tax deduction to any publicly held corporation for compensation to the principal executive officer, principal financial officer, or any of the three other most highly compensated executive officers in excess of \$1 million in any taxable year. Payments made pursuant to the Incentive Agreement, however, are intended to qualify as “performance based compensation,” eligible for continued deductibility with shareholder approval. To preserve the tax deductibility of such compensation, the Corporation is seeking approval of the Incentive Bonus Agreement and the material terms of the performance goals thereunder.

Vote Required

If a quorum of shareholders is present, the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of Common Stock present and cast on this proposal is required to approve the Incentive Agreement.

Our Board of Directors recommends that shareholders vote FOR approval of the Incentive Agreement.

Table of Contents

PROPOSAL TWO:

SHAREHOLDER PROPOSAL REGARDING POULTRY SLAUGHTER

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (“PETA”), 501 Front Street, Norfolk, VA 23510, the beneficial owner of 640 shares of our Common Stock, has notified the Corporation that they intend to propose the following resolution and supporting statement: PETA’s proposed resolution and supporting statement are reproduced verbatim below from PETA’s letter to us dated December 14, 2009. The Corporation takes no responsibility for the accuracy of PETA’s statements.

Shareholder Resolution Regarding Poultry Slaughter:

RESOLVED, that to advance the company’s financial interests and the welfare of chickens and turkeys killed for its restaurants, shareholders encourage the board to purchase 100 percent of turkey from suppliers that use controlled-atmosphere killing (CAK), a less cruel method of slaughter, by the end of 2010, and to require the company’s chicken suppliers to switch to CAK within five years.

Supporting Statement:

The Steak n Shake Company suppliers’ current slaughter method is cruel and inefficient. Consider the following:

- The Steak n Shake Company poultry suppliers use electric immobilization in their slaughterhouses. This involves shackling live birds, shocking them with electrified water in a “stun” bath, cutting their throats, and removing their feathers in tanks of scalding-hot water.
- Birds often suffer broken bones, bruising, and hemorrhaging during the shackling process, which lowers product quality and yield. They also peck and scratch at each other, which increases carcass contamination.
- Because the electric current in the “stun” bath is kept too low to effectively render birds unconscious, many have their throats cut while they are still able to feel pain.
- Birds are often scalded to death in defeathering tanks. When this happens, they often defecate, further decreasing yield and increasing the likelihood of contamination.
- Frenzied birds flap their wings, kick workers, and vomit and defecate on them, leading to increased worker injuries and illness and poor overall ergonomics.

CAK is better for the birds’ welfare and more efficient. Consider the following benefits:

- With CAK, birds who are still in their transport crates are placed in chambers, where their oxygen is replaced with nonpoisonous gasses, putting them “to sleep.”
- Every published report on CAK and numerous meat-industry scientific advisors-including Drs. Temple Grandin, Mohan Raj, and Ian Duncan-have concluded that it is superior to electric immobilization with regard to animal welfare.

Table of Contents

- Because there is no live shackling or live scalding, product quality and yield are greatly improved and contamination is drastically decreased. The manager of a CAK turkey plant in Ohio told Poultry USA that since switching to CAK, his company is “starting to quantify the improvements in yield and labor, [and] see the benefits in wings, wing meat, and breast meat.”
- Because workers never handle live birds, ergonomics improve, injury and illness rates decrease, and the opportunities for workers to abuse live birds are eliminated. The turnover rate at a Nebraska poultry plan dropped by 75 percent after it installed a CAK system.

The following Steak n Shake Company competitors are moving towards CAK:

- Burger King, Popeye’s, Wendy’s, Hardee’s, and Carl’s Jr. give purchasing preference or consideration to chicken suppliers that use CAK.
- KFCs in Canada, Ruby Tuesdays, Quiznos, Kroger, A&P, Harris Teeter, and Winn-Dixie are already sourcing chickens or turkeys killed by CAK.

We [PETA] urge shareholders to support this socially and ethically responsible resolution.

Management’s Response

The Board of Directors recommends a vote AGAINST this proposal put forth by PETA.

The Corporation respects PETA’s position. However, the Corporation, on behalf of its shareholders, is guided by two conditions: (1) what the law mandates, and (2) what customers desire. Working within those parameters, the Board will take action that is in the best interests of its shareholders. The Corporation is concerned with its customers’ wishes, not adhering to its competitors’ actions. The Board will not impose personal views involving shareholders’ money because it is managing the Company on the shareholders’ behalf.

Vote Required

If a quorum of shareholders is present, approval of the PETA proposal will require that more votes are cast in favor of the PETA proposal than are cast against it.

Our Board of Directors recommends that shareholders vote AGAINST the approval of the PETA proposal.

Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

This Compensation Discussion and Analysis is designed to provide shareholders with a better understanding of our compensation philosophy, core principles, and decision making process. It explains the compensation-related actions taken with respect to the executive officers who are identified in the Summary Compensation Table (the “Named Executive Officers”). Details regarding the compensation we paid to the Named Executive Officers for fiscal 2009 are found in the tables and narrative which follows them.

Compensation Philosophy

Introduction

Since 2008 the Corporation has changed in several respects, including the way we view and structure executive compensation. Currently, our executive compensation consists exclusively of a salary and a cash bonus. In 2009, our restructuring into a diversified holding company effected further change in our compensation system. For example, at the end of fiscal 2009, our executive officers consisted of only our Chief Executive Officer, Sardar Biglari, and our Interim Chief Financial Officer, Duane Geiger.

To assist shareholders in fully understanding the information in this proxy statement — which covers compensation paid to executives (and former executives) during the fiscal years prior to 2009 — we have included an overview of our current and future compensation structure and a brief discussion of prior management’s past compensation philosophy, from which we have departed significantly.

The Governance, Compensation, and Nominating Committee

Our program for compensation of executive officers differs from those of most public companies. The Governance, Compensation, and Nominating Committee of our Board of Directors was created in fiscal 2010. This Committee determines the amounts and elements of compensation for Mr. Biglari, who does not have an employment agreement, subject to the terms of the Incentive Agreement. The Committee’s functions include oversight of our compensation policies in general, which are more completely described in the Committee’s charter and is available at www.biglariholdings.com. Under the Committee’s compensation tenets, the Corporation does not grant stock options to executive officers.

The Committee has delegated to Mr. Biglari the responsibility of establishing the compensation of other executive officers of the Corporation. Factors Mr. Biglari considers in setting the salary of these officers, including the Chief Financial Officer, are typically subjective, such as his perception of the merits of the executive's performance and any changes in that executive’s functional responsibilities. Mr. Biglari will also affix the compensation for the senior executives of the operating businesses of the holding company and its major subsidiaries. He may utilize different incentive arrangements, with their terms dependent upon such elements as the economic potential or capital intensity of the business. The incentives could be large and will always be tied to the operating results for which an executive exercises authority.

Table of Contents

Compensation of Named Executive Officers—Fiscal Year 2009

The base salary of Mr. Biglari was set at \$280,000 in fiscal 2008. On June 19, 2009, the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors (prior to being merged with the Governance and Nominating Committee) voted unanimously to increase Mr. Biglari's salary to \$900,000 per year. Mr. Biglari did not receive any stock or stock option grants. The Committee also noted that Mr. Biglari, through related entities, had significant economic interests in the Corporation, further aligning his interests with the Corporation's shareholders. In determining to increase Mr. Biglari's salary, the Committee did not use a compensation consultant because the Corporation's remuneration was far less than that of the peer group. The Committee relied upon its subjective judgment and considered a variety of factors, including the Corporation's financial performance.

Salaries for other Named Executive Officers in 2009 were either based upon prior employment agreements or upon the decision of Mr. Biglari. Bonus payment decisions were made by Mr. Biglari, at his discretion. In addition, bonus eligibility was predicated on the Corporation's generating free cash flow. He also considered subjective factors such as his perception of the executive's performance and changes in functional responsibility, and operating results over which the executive had authority. The Compensation Committee was apprised of the final bonus determinations by Mr. Biglari, of which it approved.

The stock and stock option grants to Dennis Roberts on September 28, 2008, occurred in connection with his initial hiring and came about before the decision in February 2009 that executive compensation would consist exclusively of a salary and cash bonus.

Compensation—Fiscal 2008

All decisions relating to the compensation of the Named Executive Officers were made by the Compensation Committee in executive session, without management present. In assessing the compensation of the Chief Executive Officer, the Compensation Committee made a qualitative assessment of the Company's performance, his contribution to that performance, his expected performance in the future, and other factors (including experience, historical compensation and the relationship of his compensation to that of other executives in the Corporation). In evaluating the performance of other executive officers, the Compensation Committee considered the evaluations provided by the Chief Executive Officer, the Corporation's performance, individual performance, department performance and other criteria that the Committee believed to be indicative of performance.

As a general matter, over 50% of targeted annual compensation to executive officers took the form of performance-dependent, incentive cash and equity programs. We believed that putting a significant portion of compensation at risk provided an incentive to perform at the highest level and more closely aligned the executive's perspective with that of our shareholders.

As part of making any compensation decision, the Compensation Committee reviewed market compensation levels for executive officers at other restaurant companies (for positions that are unique to our industry) or similarly-sized companies (for other positions) to determine whether the compensation components for our executive officers remain in the targeted ranges described in the following paragraph. With the assistance of our Human Resources department and a third party compensation consultant, management collected and presented compensation data for our executive officers, including the Named Executive Officers. Information regarding the restaurant industry was obtained from the Chain Restaurant Compensation Association and the Committee's consultant. Information regarding the compensation for executives at similarly-sized companies was obtained from the Committee's consultant and from published compensation surveys. The compensation surveys provided data on pay practices for executive positions at companies with similar revenue size, although they did not provide names of the reported companies. The compensation assessment that was presented to the Compensation Committee included an evaluation of base salary,

target annual incentive opportunities, long-term incentive grant values, and benefits for each executive officer relative to similar positions in the market.

Table of Contents

The Compensation Committee affixed total targeted compensation for executives who held positions unique to the restaurant industry (such as EVP of Operations) between the 50th and 75th percentiles of a set of restaurant companies of similar size. For other executive positions, where both restaurant and general industry pay levels are relevant for staffing and retention (such as Chief Financial Officer), the Compensation Committee set targeted total compensation between the 50th and 75th percentiles of comparable restaurant companies and the 50th percentile of non-restaurant companies of a similar revenue size. The Committee may have varied from these percentiles based on such factors as historic compensation, individual skills, experience, contribution and performance, internal equity, retention concerns and other factors relevant to the individual executive. In addition, actual compensation (e.g., amounts earned and paid each year) may have been higher or lower than targeted total compensation based on our performance or the assessment of the executive's performance.

In setting base salaries for fiscal 2008, the Compensation Committee considered the following factors:

- Internal analysis. This is the relative pay difference for different job levels within the Corporation.
- Individual performance. Increases to base salaries resulted from individual performance assessments as well as an evaluation of the market and the mix among various components of compensation. In setting Mr. Biglari's salary, the Committee considered his recent involvement with the Corporation and his significant equity stake in the Corporation. In fiscal 2008 Mr. Biglari's base salary was below the 50th percentile for chief executive officers of similarly sized companies in the restaurant industry and generally based on information available to the Committee. The Compensation Committee also reviewed the performance of the other Named Executive Officers. The Committee believed that equity compensation would provide an appropriate incentive to these executives to improve our performance and reward them for success in their roles. A discussion of the mix between the two components of equity compensation is in the "Long-Term Incentives" section below.
- Market data. While the Compensation Committee used industry and general market data to test for the reasonableness and competitiveness of base salaries, Committee members exercise subjective judgment within the ranges in this data in view of our compensation objectives and individual performance and circumstances.

Table of Contents

For fiscal 2008 the Compensation Committee intentionally allocated a greater portion of targeted total compensation to the performance-dependent elements. One way in which it did this was to set what it believed to be aggressive, but reachable, targets for fiscal 2008 under our Incentive Bonus Plan. The Compensation Committee established a target incentive opportunity for each participant, expressed as a percent of base salary. The Named Executive Officers had target bonus opportunities set at 30% - 70% of their base salaries. Mr. Biglari did not participate in the Corporation's Incentive Bonus Plan in fiscal 2008.

To arrive at a payout number under the Incentive Bonus Plan, the target bonus opportunity for each participant was multiplied by a formula based on our performance as determined by targets for objective performance and measures and individual performance goals. In fiscal 2008 the corporate performance measures were growth in earnings before interest and taxes ("EBIT") and same store sales over the prior year. Individual performance was based on the successful completion of defined projects during the fiscal year. The individual performance modifier may have resulted in further modification of the payout, since any upward adjustment for one participant must be offset by downward adjustments for others. The formula used to compute bonus payouts is set forth below:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \text{Target} & & \text{Corporate} & & \text{Individual} & & \\ \text{Bonus} & & \text{Performance} & & \text{Performance} & & \\ \text{Amount} & \times & \text{Modifier} & \times & \text{Modifier} & & \\ & & (0\% - 250\%) & & (75\% - 125\%) & & \end{array}$$

After the end of the fiscal year, the Compensation Committee evaluates the Corporation's performance against the specific targets set at the beginning of the year and modifies the bonus payout to 0% to 250% of the target. For fiscal 2008, the targets for growth in EBIT and same store sales were as follows:

Factors		Threshold(0%)		Target(100%)		Maximum(250%)
Same Store Sales		-3.5%		-2.0%		0.05
EBIT	\$	28.9M	\$	29.6M	\$	31.1M

In fiscal 2008, we did not achieve the targets at the threshold level for either the same store sales or EBIT performance measures. Consequently, we made no payments under the Incentive Bonus Plan to any participant in fiscal 2008.

Equity-based incentives were a significant element of total executive officer compensation. These equity-based incentives consisted of stock options and restricted stock.

The size of stock option grants for executive officers was based primarily on the target dollar value of the award, translated into a number of option shares based on the estimated economic value of the award, as calculated by the Black-Scholes option pricing formula. As a result, the number of shares underlying stock option awards has typically varied from year to year, as it was dependent on the price of our stock. Subject to limits imposed by Section 422 of the Internal Revenue Code, options granted to all employees were incentive stock options.

Table of Contents

In April 2008, the Compensation Committee approved annual grants of stock options to each of the Named Executive Officers (except to Mr. Biglari). These options had an exercise price equal to the market value of our stock on the date of grant. They were granted under the 2008 Equity Incentive Plan, which was approved by our shareholders in March 2008. These options vest over four years, at a rate of 25% per year, beginning on the first anniversary of the grant. They expire ten years from the date of grant. See “Grants of Plan-Based Awards.”

We do not backdate options or grant options or other equity awards retroactively. In addition, we do not purposely schedule option awards or other equity grants prior to the disclosure of favorable information or after the announcement of unfavorable information. In general, equity-based incentive awards were made during the Board meeting held in conjunction with the annual meeting, with mid-year grants limited to newly hired or promoted employees.

Restricted stock awards provide the recipient with shares of our stock, which the recipient may vote and for which he may receive dividends during the vesting period. The recipient may not transfer or assign the restricted shares for a period after the date of grant, however, and if the recipient ceases to be our employee for any reason other than death, disability or retirement during that period the shares will be forfeited. The restriction on transfer is generally three (3) years, although some new hires have received shares with a shorter period of restriction. If the recipient ceases being our employee during the vesting period as a result of retirement, death or disability then the recipient (or his/her estate) will receive a pro rata amount of shares reflective of the percent of the vesting period during which the recipient was employed.

Perquisites

In fiscal 2009, perquisites provided to executive officers were dramatically reduced, and are limited to (i) amounts we pay to group life insurance premiums for coverage in excess of \$50,000, (ii) personal use of a company car, and (iii) business-related travel expenses deemed commuting. During 2009 the company car program was discontinued. Leases on company cars were allowed to expire and in place of a vehicle certain executives received cash stipends of \$500 per month. See footnote (c) to the Summary Compensation Table below for the perquisites provided to each Named Executive Officer in fiscal 2009.

In fiscal 2008 we also provided a medical reimbursement plan which provided officers with up to \$3,500 in reimbursement for otherwise unreimbursed medical costs each year, and a company non-discretionary matching contribution of 50% of up to 6% of the officer’s compensation contributed into the 401(k) Plan and deferred into the Deferred Compensation Plan. The medical reimbursement plan was discontinued in fiscal 2009.

Other Benefits

Our executive officers also receive the benefits provided to all employees, subject to satisfying the requirements for participation. These benefits include: participation in the 401(k) Plan, life insurance equal to their annual salary, group medical & dental plans, short- and long-term disability insurance, and a lunch discount of 40% at Steak n Shake restaurants on work days. The executive officers are also entitled to participate in the Corporation's Deferred Compensation Plan, a plan which is only open to those who are “highly compensated” under IRS regulations.

Table of Contents

Employment Agreements, Severance, and Change-in-Control Arrangements

Current Structure

Mr. Biglari does not have an employment agreement with the Corporation. On January 26, 2010, the Corporation and Mr. Geiger terminated any prior agreement concerning employment, severance, or change in control. Instead the Corporation and Mr. Geiger entered into a new, simpler agreement. The new contractual obligation stipulates that, only in the event Mr. Biglari ceases to be Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation, shall Mr. Geiger have the option of terminating his employment with the Corporation and receiving a lump sum severance payment equal to one year of his then current base compensation. The new accord, unlike the prior one, does not contemplate or contractually bind the Corporation to severance payment in the event of termination without cause.

Employment Agreements - 2009

During fiscal 2009, we had employment agreements with two of the Named Executive Officers, Messrs. Geiger and Janjua, both of which were entered into in fiscal year 2008. Only Mr. Geiger was still employed as an executive officer at the end of fiscal year 2009. Mr. Janjua did not receive any benefits under his agreement upon his departure. These agreements (the "Employment Agreements") provide for the payment of benefits in the event the executive's employment is terminated without cause or in the event he terminates his employment with good reason at any time. In establishing the benefits to be provided under the Employment Agreements when they were entered into in 2008, the Compensation Committee obtained benchmarking information from its compensation consultant, considered which individuals were vital to retain and evaluated the potential costs and benefits of the Employment Agreements. The companies to which we benchmarked were chosen based on industry, revenues, and number of employees and included DineEquity, Inc., Bob Evans Farms, Inc., California Pizza Kitchen, Inc., Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, Inc., The Cheesecake Factory Incorporated, CKE Restaurants, Inc., Darden Restaurants, Inc., Domino's Pizza, Inc., Jack in the Box, Inc., Max and Erma's, O'Charley's, Inc., PF Chang's China Bistro, Inc., Panera Bread Company, Red Robin Gourmet Burgers, Inc., Ruby Tuesday, Inc., Sonic Corp., Starbucks Corp., Yum! Brands, Inc., and Wendy's/Arby's Group, Inc. All of the aforementioned companies were chosen because prior management viewed said firms as direct competition.

The primary terms of the Employment Agreements are provided below:

- Stay Payment. If a Change in Control (as defined in the Employment Agreement) had occurred prior to November 7, 2008, the employee would have received a payment in an amount equal to 30% of his base salary.
- Termination Following Change in Control. In the event that employment is terminated within one year of a Change in Control by us without "cause" (as defined in the Employment Agreements) or by the employee for the reasons set forth in Section 4 of the Employment Agreements ("good reason"), he will receive: (a) a lump-sum severance payment equal to one year of his base salary, (b) coverage under the group medical plan for one year, (c) use of his company-provided car for up to 60 days, (d) a lump-sum payment of a pro rata amount of the annual incentive bonus to which he would have been entitled had he been employed through the applicable bonus computation period, and (e) reimbursement of up to \$15,000 for outplacement services.

Table of Contents

·Termination Without Cause or Separation with Good Reason. Should we terminate the employee without cause, or should he decide to separate with good reason at any time then he will receive: (a) his normal gross salary, payable for one year; this amount will be reduced by the amount of the compensation earned in any subsequent employment; (b) a lump-sum payment equal to the pro rata portion of the annual incentive bonus reflective of the number of days in the year the individual was employed; (c) continued use of his company owned automobile for up to 60 days following separation or until provided with an automobile by a subsequent employer; (d) continued participation in any company-provided group medical insurance plan for up to one year, or until provided benefits by a subsequent employer; and (e) up to \$15,000 for outplacement services.

·Executive's Obligations. Prior to obtaining any benefits under the Employment Agreements, the employee must waive any claims against us and agree to keep confidential our confidential information and business secrets. He also must agree not to solicit any of our employees for one year following termination. We may recover any benefits paid under the Employment Agreements if he breaches any of his obligations under the Employment Agreements.

Mr. Roberts was hired on September 25, 2008, under a written offer letter. The letter provided for a base salary and annual discretionary cash bonus. He was also given a one-time grant of 2,500 stock options (as adjusted for the 1-for-20 reverse stock split effective December 18, 2009) which vest at the rate of 20% on each of the first five anniversaries of the grant, and a one-time grant of 843 shares of common stock (as adjusted for the 1-for-20 reverse stock split) that vested over six months from the date of grant. Both grants were made pursuant to the 2008 Equity Incentive Plan. Mr. Roberts' arrangement also provided for a severance payment equal to six months of his then current salary in the event his employment is terminated by the Corporation for any reason not constituting "just cause" under Indiana law.

Effect of a Change in Control, Death, Disability or Retirement on Equity Grants - 2009

In the event of the death of an option recipient, then his/her estate may exercise the option in full at any time prior to its expiration. In the event of an option recipient's retirement, he/she may exercise any vested options within three months from the date of retirement. Should an option recipient's employment end as a result of a disability, then he/she would be able to exercise the options as if the recipient had remained with the Corporation through (i) cessation of payments under a disability pay plan of the Corporation, (ii) the recipient's death, or (iii) the recipient's 65th birthday.

Table of Contents

All prior restricted stock plans, the 2006 Steak n Shake Employee Stock Option Plan and the 2008 Equity Incentive Plan contain provisions that accelerate the vesting of the awards upon a change in control. Options granted under prior stock option plans may be accelerated upon a change in control at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

The number of unvested shares that would vest on a change in control, and the value of those shares as of the end of the fiscal year, is set forth in the table below entitled “Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year End” under the column entitled “Number of Shares or Units of Stock that Have Not Vested.”

As discussed under Employment Agreements - Current Structure, the preceding discussion related only to agreements in place during fiscal 2009 and Mr. Geiger's agreement has been superseded by a new severance agreement as of January 26, 2010.

Deductibility Cap on Executive Compensation

Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code prohibits publicly-held companies from taking a tax deduction for certain compensation paid in excess of \$1 million to the Chief Executive Officer and each of the three other most highly compensated executive officers (other than the Chief Financial Officer). Performance-based compensation remains deductible. To qualify as performance-based compensation, the program under which it is provided must be approved by shareholders and meet other requirements. In fiscal 2009 we did not pay compensation that was not deductible under Section 162(m).

Summary Compensation Information

The following table shows the compensation paid to the Company’s Chief Executive Officer, the Interim Chief Financial Officer, and its other executive officers. (Mr. Roberts is no longer considered an executive officer of the parent company. Mr. Janjua and Mr. Murrill were not employed by the Corporation or its subsidiaries at the end of fiscal 2009.)

SUMMARY COMPENSATION TABLE

Name and Principal Position	Fiscal Year	Salary (\$)	Bonus (\$)	Stock Awards (\$) ^a	Option Awards (\$) ^b	All Other Compensation ^c	Total
Sardar Biglari, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer	2009	\$ 467,231	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 48,214	\$ 515,445
	2008	\$ 30,105	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,535	\$ 44,640
Duane Geiger, Interim Chief Financial Officer, Vice President, Controller	2009	\$ 194,712	\$ 90,000	\$ 62,957	\$ 43,218	\$ 8,185	\$ 399,072
	2008	\$ 187,500	\$ -	\$ 64,762	\$ 65,528	\$ 15,992	\$ 333,782
	2007	\$ 185,596	\$ -	\$ 74,426	\$ 48,910	\$ 15,455	\$ 324,387
Dennis Roberts, Senior Vice President, Operations Excellence – Steak	2009	\$ 212,423	\$ -	\$ 150,000	\$ 138,748	\$ 10,267	\$ 511,438

n Shake
Operations, Inc.

Omar Janjua, Former Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer (resigned August 2009)	2009	\$ 305,769	\$ -	\$ (124,177)	\$ 41,742	\$ 7,173	\$ 230,507
	2008	\$ 300,000	\$ -	\$ 100,374	\$ 49,769	\$ 50,836	\$ 500,979
Tom Murrill, Former Senior Vice President, Human Resources (resigned September 2008)	2009	\$ 18,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 269,006	\$ 287,006
	2008	\$ 260,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 92,379	\$ 7,086	\$ 359,465

a Represents the dollar amount of equity compensation cost recognized for financial reporting purposes with respect to stock awards in fiscal 2009, excluding the impact of estimated forfeitures for service-based vesting conditions, as follows:

Table of Contents

Name	Date of Grant	No. of Shares	Fiscal 2009 Expense
Mr. Geiger	2/8/06	220	\$ 9,855
	2/6/07	230	27,171
	4/12/08	520	25,931
Total			\$ 62,957
Mr. Roberts	9/28/08	843	\$ 150,000
Mr. Janjua	6/13/07	770	\$ (101,162)
	4/12/08	1000	(23,015)
Total			\$ (124,177)

Negative numbers reflect the benefit the Corporation realized when these grants were forfeited upon the officer's departure from the Corporation during fiscal 2009. See Note 15 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8 of our Form 10-K for a description of the assumptions made in the valuation. The actual value realized by the Named Executive Officer with respect to stock awards will depend on the market value of our stock on the date the restricted stock vests, as well as the date on which the stock is subsequently sold.

- b. Represents the dollar amount of equity compensation cost recognized for financial reporting purposes with respect to stock option awards in fiscal 2009, excluding the impact of estimated forfeitures for service-based vesting conditions, as follows:

Table of Contents

Name	Date of Grant	No. of Shares Underlying Options	Fiscal 2009 Expense
Mr. Geiger	9/14/05	200	\$ 1,186
	2/8/06	375	12,255
	9/29/06	201	—
	2/6/07	365	12,639
	5/11/07	349	—
	4/12/08	820	17,138
Total			\$ 43,218
Mr. Roberts	9/28/08	2,500	\$ 138,748
Mr. Janjua	6/13/07	1200	\$ 24,074
	4/12/08	1585	17,668
Total			\$ 41,742

Negative numbers reflect the benefit the Corporation realized when these grants were forfeited upon the officer's departure from the Corporation during fiscal 2009. See Note 15 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8 of our Form 10-K for a description of the assumptions made in the valuation. The actual value realized by the Named Executive Officer with respect to option awards will depend on the difference between the market value of our stock on the date the option is exercised and the exercise price. The information provided in the table reflects the 1-for-20 reverse stock split effective as of the end of business December 18, 2009.

c. The type and amount of the components of the figures in the "All Other Compensation" column above for fiscal year 2009 are as follows:

	Mr. Biglari	Mr. Geiger	Mr. Roberts	Mr. Janjua	Mr. Murrill
401(k) matching contributions	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—
Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plan matching contributions	\$—	\$361	\$—	\$—	\$—
Excess life insurance	\$232	\$258	\$1,267	\$664	\$42
Automobile expenses – personal use *	\$—	\$6,967	\$9,000	\$5,910	\$3,256
Executive Medical Reimbursement Plan	\$—	\$599	\$—	\$599	\$—
Severance Payments	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$265,708
Travel expenses *	\$47,982	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—

* Pursuant to the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") requirements we are required to disclose our method for determining the aggregate incremental cost of these items. These amounts reflect our actual costs.

Table of Contents

Plan-Based Award Grants

The following table sets forth specific information regarding the awards made under our equity and non-equity incentive plans in fiscal 2009. All information provided in the table is adjusted for the 1-for-20 reverse stock split effective December 18, 2009.

GRANTS OF PLAN-BASED AWARDS

Name	Grant Date	All Other Stock Awards: Number of Shares of Stock or Unitsa	All Other Option Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Options (#)b	Exercise or Base Price of Option Awards (\$/share)	Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards (\$)c
Dennis Roberts	9/28/08	843	2,500	\$ 200.00	\$ 288,749

a. Represents restricted stock that vested six months after the date of grant.

b. These options vest and become exercisable over five years, at a rate of 20% per year, beginning on the first anniversary of the date of grant.

c. Amounts represent the grant date fair value of stock options and restricted stock granted to Mr. Roberts in fiscal 2009. For a discussion of the assumptions made in the valuation, see Note 15 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8 of our Form 10-K for fiscal 2009 filed on December 14, 2009.

Outstanding Equity Awards

The following table sets forth certain information about outstanding option and stock awards held by the Named Executive Officers as of the end of fiscal 2009. The information provided in this table reflects the 1-for-20 reverse stock split effective as of the end of business December 18, 2009.

Table of Contents

OUTSTANDING EQUITY AWARDS AT FISCAL YEAR END

Name	Option Awards				Stock Awards	
	Unexercised Options				Equity Incentive Plan Awards	
	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options Exercisable (#)	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#)	Option Exercise Price (\$)	Option Expiration Date	Number of Shares or Units of Stock that Have Not Vested (#)a	Market Value of Shares or Units of Stock that Have Not Vested (\$)b
Mr. Biglari	N/A					
Mr. Geiger	200	d	345.00	9/14/10		
	201	e	343.40	9/29/11		
	349	e	324.40	5/11/12		
	281	c	94	349.40	2/8/16	
	183	c	182	354.40	2/6/17	
	205		615	c	149.60	4/12/18
					230	\$54,142
					520	\$122,408
Mr. Roberts	500	2,000	200.00	9/28/18		

a. All restricted stock grants have a three year cliff-vesting period. Those granted prior to April 2008 were granted with an equal amount of book units. See "Compensation Discussion and Analysis — Components of Total Compensation — Long-Term Incentives — Restricted Stock" for additional information regarding these shares.

b. Market value is computed based on a price of \$235.40, which was the closing price of our common stock on the last day of fiscal 2009 adjusted for the 1-for-20 reverse split effective end of business December 18, 2009.

c. These options vest at a rate of 25% per year beginning on the first anniversary of the date of grant and expire ten years from the date of grant; they do not contain a reload feature.

d. These options vest at a rate of 20% per year beginning on the date of grant and expire five years from the date of grant; they also contain a reload feature.

e. These are "reload" options which were granted pursuant to the 1997 Employee Stock Option Plan. Reload options are granted in an amount equal to the number of shares used to pay the exercise price on the underlying stock options. They are vested immediately and expire five years from date of grant. Beginning in February 2006 we ceased issuing options with a reload feature.

Table of Contents

Award Exercise and Vesting

The following table sets forth the number of options exercised in fiscal 2009, along with the value received as a result of the exercise. It also shows the number of shares of restricted stock that vested during the year, with concurrent vesting of book units, and the resulting value realized by the Named Executive Officer. The information provided in this table reflects the 1-for-20 reverse stock split effective as of the end of business December 18, 2009.

OPTION EXERCISES AND STOCK VESTED

Name	Number of Shares Acquired on Vesting	Stock Awards	
			Value Realized on Vesting ^a
Mr. Geiger	220	\$	31,240
Mr. Roberts	843	\$	127,560

a. Mr. Geiger had stock vest on February 8, 2009. Mr. Roberts had stock vest March 29, 2009. The amount in this column includes the value of the restricted stock on the date of vesting, based on the closing price of our common stock on the date of vesting, or immediately prior thereto if the vesting date was not a trading day (\$135.40 for the February 8, 2009 vesting as adjusted for the 1-for-20 reverse split), and the value of book units which vested in conjunction with the shares of restricted stock. The book units associated with the February 8, 2009 vesting were \$0.33. The March 29, 2009 vesting price was \$151.20 as adjusted for the 1-for-20 reverse stock split and did not have book units associated with it. Mr. Roberts' grant contained what would be fractional shares had the 1-for-20 reverse split occurred prior to its vesting.

Table of Contents

Retirement Benefits

We maintain two plans that provide retirement income to all eligible employees, including the Named Executive Officers:

401(k) Plan

The Steak n Shake Company 401(k) Savings Plan (the “Plan”) is a defined contribution plan covering substantially all employees, including the Named Executive Officers, after they have attained age 21 and completed six months of service and allows employees to defer up to 20% of their salaries. The Corporation made non-discretionary matching contributions through October 14, 2008. The matching contributions during fiscal years 2008 and 2007 were equal to 50% of participants’ pretax contributions and subject to a maximum of 6% of participants’ eligible compensation contributed to the Plan. During October 2008, the Plan was amended to eliminate the non-discretionary contributions and allow for discretionary matching contributions. No discretionary matching contributions were made in fiscal year 2009. However, subsequent to year end, discretionary matching contributions have been resumed in fiscal year 2010. Going forward, discretionary contributions will be based on the profitability of the Corporation and subject to quarterly revision. The Named Executive Officers and other “highly compensated employees” (as that term is defined by IRS regulations) are limited to contributing 1% of their cash compensation to the 401(k) Plan.

Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plan

The Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plan (“Deferred Compensation Plan”) is available to all highly compensated employees, including the Named Executive Officers. Investment options offered under the Deferred Compensation Plan are identical to those offered in the 401(k) Plan. Before a participant may make contributions under the Deferred Compensation Plan, the participant must first contribute 1% of their earnings to the 401(k) Plan. Until November 2008 we matched participant contributions in the amount of 50% of the aggregate deferrals into both plans, up to 6% of the participant’s cash compensation. Matching contributions were suspended in November 2008 until such time as the Corporation becomes profitable again. Total deferrals under both the Deferred Compensation Plan and 401(k) Plan are limited to 20% of the aggregate of a participant’s salary and annual incentive bonus, which means that as a result of the 1% of compensation deferred to the 401(k) Plan, the most a participant may defer to the Deferred Compensation Plan is 19% of their total cash compensation. Matching contributions under the Deferred Compensation Plan vest over the first six years of employment, at a rate of 20% per year beginning on the second anniversary of employment. A participant’s account balance will be distributed at a time directed by the participant. Participants may elect that distributions be made in a lump sum or in equal annual installments over a period of up to ten (10) years. Withdrawals from the Deferred Compensation Plan are limited to the withdrawal of participant contributions in cases of financial hardship.

Table of Contents

The following table describes the contributions, earnings, and balance at the end of fiscal 2009 for each of the Named Executive Officers who participated in the Deferred Compensation Plan.

NONQUALIFIED DEFERRED COMPENSATION

Name	Executive Contributions in Last Fiscal Yeara	Company Contributions in Last Fiscal Yearb	Aggregate Earnings in Last Fiscal Year	Distributions in Last Fiscal Year	Aggregate Balance at Last Fiscal Year-end
Mr. Geiger	\$ 2,524	\$ 361	\$ (10,513)	\$ 41,266	\$ —

a. The amounts in this column are also included in the Summary Compensation Table in the “Salary” column.

b. The amounts in this column are also included in the Summary Compensation Table in the “All Other Compensation” column.

Potential Payments Upon Termination of Employment

As discussed above in “Compensation Discussion and Analysis – Employment Agreements, Severance and Change-in-Control Arrangements– Effect of a Change in Control, Death, Disability or Retirement on Equity Grants,” some of our equity awards accelerate upon a change in control or upon the retirement, death or disability of the holder. Also, two of the Named Executive Officers, Mr. Geiger and Mr. Roberts, had an agreement in fiscal 2009 that would have provided him with benefits upon the occurrence of one or more of these events. The following table sets forth for Mr. Geiger and Mr. Roberts, the aggregate value that he would receive as a result of any of the foregoing events if they had occurred on September 30, 2009. No amounts would be payable to Mr. Biglari upon his termination.

	Resignation	Death, Disability or Retirement	Terminationa	Change in Controlb	Qualifying Termination Within One Year of a Change in Controlc
Mr. Geiger					
Restricted Stocke	—	\$ 176,550	—	\$ 176,550	—
Stock Optionsd	—	—	—	\$ 70,356	—
Stay Paymentf	—	—	—	\$ 58,414	—
Severance Paymentg	—	—	\$ 194,712	—	\$ 194,712
Health Care Coverageh	—	—	\$ 8,500	—	\$ 8,500
Company Carri	—	—	\$ 1,100	—	\$ 1,100
Outplacement Servicesj	—	—	\$ 15,000	—	\$ 15,000
Mr. Roberts					
Severance Paymentg			\$ 84,000		

Table of Contents

- a. Amounts in this column include payments made upon termination by us without cause or by the employee with good reason, but exclude payments made upon or following a change in control.
- b. Amounts in this column reflect payments or acceleration of benefits that would occur upon a change in control without termination of employment.
- c. Amounts in this column are payable only if the employment of the Named Executive Officer is terminated by us without cause or if the Named Executive Officer leaves for good reason within one year following a change in control.
- d. Reflects the excess of the closing price of \$235.40 for our stock on the last day of fiscal 2009 (as adjusted for the 1-for-20 reverse stock split), over the exercise price of outstanding options currently vested and any unvested stock options, the vesting of which would accelerate as a result of the Named Executive Officer's termination of employment on September 24, 2008 as a result of the specified termination event, multiplied by the number of shares of our stock underlying the stock options.
- e. Reflects the closing price of \$235.40 for our stock on the last day of fiscal 2009 (as adjusted for the 1-for-20 reverse stock split), multiplied by the number of shares of restricted stock that would vest as a result of the Named Executive Officer's termination of employment on September 30, 2009 as a result of the specified termination event, plus the value of accrued book units through September 30, 2009.
- f. Reflects the payment of 30% of the Named Executive Officer's salary immediately upon a change in control.
 - g. Amounts represent one year of salary payable to Mr. Geiger and six months payable to Mr. Roberts.
- h. Amounts represent one year of coverage under our group medical plans at the level currently elected by the individual.
- i. Amounts represent the use of the Named Executive Officer's company car for up to 60 days after termination of employment.
- j. Reflects the maximum amount of outplacement services for which the Named Executive Officer may be reimbursed by us.

For a description of the terms of the employment agreements for Mr. Geiger, see “Compensation Discussion and Analysis – Employment Agreements, Severance and Change-in-Control Arrangements – Employment Agreements.”

Table of Contents

DIRECTORS' COMPENSATION

Directors of the Corporation who are employees or spouses of employees do not receive fees for attendance at directors' meetings. A director who is not an employee or a spouse of an employee receives an annual cash retainer of \$22,000. The Chairs of the Audit Committee and Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee receive an annual retainer of \$37,000. In addition, non-employee directors receive cash meeting attendance fees as follows:

- \$3,500 for each in-person Board meeting attended;
- \$1,250 for each committee meeting attended in-person not held in conjunction with a Board meeting;
- \$500 for each committee meeting attended held in conjunction with a Board meeting; and
- \$500 for any meeting (Board or committee) in which the director participated by phone.

From November 2008 to March 2009 we paid all retainers in Company stock. We have discontinued that practice to minimize equity dilution. Effective April 1, 2009, all annual retainers have been paid in cash only.

In addition to the foregoing payments, directors may participate in the Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plan. There are no matching payments made to directors under the Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plan and no guaranteed return is offered. Instead, it provides directors with an opportunity to defer the receipt of retainer and/or meeting fees and obtain them at a later date, together with the gains or losses associated with investments against which they choose to track their accounts.

The following table provides compensation information for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2009 for each non-management member of the Corporation's Board of Directors, and six former directors who received compensation in fiscal year 2009.

Name	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash	Stock Awards ^a	Option Awards ^b	All Other Compensation ^c	Total
Geoffrey Ballotti (resigned in November 2008)	\$4,500	\$7,331	\$(2,722)	\$ 590	\$9,699
Philip L. Cooley	\$40,420	\$5,559	\$—	\$ —	\$45,979
Wayne Kelley (resigned in March 2009)	\$13,708	\$13,484	\$248	\$ 590	\$28,030
Ruth J. Person	\$41,647	\$5,559	\$14,910	\$ 590	\$62,706
William J. Regan, Jr.	\$46,669	\$4,432	\$—	\$ —	\$51,101
J. Fred Risk (did not stand for re-election in 2009)	\$18,089	\$22,683	\$14,910	\$ 590	\$56,272
John W. Ryan	\$43,646	\$8,089	\$14,910	\$ —	\$66,645
Steven M. Schmidt (did not stand for re-election in 2009)	\$6,610	\$22,683	\$15,610	\$ 590	\$45,493
Edward Wilhelm (did not stand for re-election in 2009)	\$13,936	\$22,683	\$14,039	\$ 590	\$51,248
James Williamson, Jr. (resigned in March 2008)	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$ 295	\$295

Table of Contents

a. Represents the dollar amount of equity compensation cost recognized for financial reporting purposes with respect to grants of restricted stock under our Non-Employee Restricted Stock Plan in fiscal 2009. Dr. Cooley received a grant of 50 shares of restricted stock on March 12, 2008, the grant date fair value of which was \$8,070. Messrs. Schmidt and Wilhelm received a grant of 50 shares of restricted stock each on February 6, 2007, the grant date fair value of which was \$17,840. Mr. Ballotti received a grant of 50 shares of restricted stock on April 23, 2007, the grant date fair value of which was \$16,840. These are all of the shares of restricted stock held by our directors. The numbers of shares granted have been adjusted to reflect the 1-for-20 reverse stock split effective as of the end of business December 18, 2009.

b. Represents the dollar amount of equity compensation cost recognized for financial reporting purposes with respect to grants of stock options in fiscal 2009 as follows:

Fiscal 2009 Expense for Stock Option Grants to Non-Employee Directors

Name	Grant Date	No. of Shares Underlying Option Grant	Fiscal 2009 Expense
Mr. Ballotti	4/20/07	250	\$ (2,722)
Total			\$ (2,722)
Mr. Kelley	5/9/99	412	\$ —
	11/12/03	250	—
	12/1/03	362	—
	11/18/04	250	248
Total			\$ 248
Dr. Person	11/12/03	250	\$ —
	11/18/04	250	248
	11/8/05	250	7,823
	2/6/07	250	6,839
Total			\$ 14,910
Mr. Risk	11/12/03	250	\$ —
	11/18/04	250	248
	11/8/05	250	7,823
	2/6/07	250	6,839
Total			\$ 14,910
Dr. Ryan	11/12/03	250	\$ —
	11/18/04	250	248
	11/8/05	250	7,823
	2/6/07	250	6,839
Total			\$ 14,910
Mr. Schmidt	5/11/05	250	\$ 948
	11/8/05	250	7,823
	2/6/07	250	6,839
Total			\$ 15,610
Mr. Wilhelm	5/9/06	250	\$ 7,200
	2/6/07	250	6,839
Total			\$ 14,039

Table of Contents

See Note 15 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8 of our Form 10-K for a description of the assumptions made in the valuation. The information in the table reflects the 1-for-20 reverse split effective as of the end of business December 18, 2009.

The preceding table sets forth the shares of our stock underlying unexercised stock options held by each of our non-employee directors as of September 30, 2009. In the aggregate that number is 5,274. No stock options were awarded to our non-employee directors in fiscal year 2009.

c. This column includes the medical reimbursement plan, which had a value of up to \$3,500 per year, tax gross up for the medical reimbursement plan. The plan was discontinued by the Board during fiscal 2009.

In the past we have compensated our non-employee directors with equity-based awards, the value of which are tied to increases in the value of our common stock. We have had director stock option plans in place since 1990. These plans provide for grants of nonqualified stock options to our non-employee directors at a price equal to the fair market value of our common stock on the date of grant. Options granted prior to November 7, 2005 are exercisable at a rate of 20% on the date of grant and on each anniversary thereof until fully exercisable and expire five years from the date of grant. Options granted after November 7, 2005 are exercisable at a rate of 25% on the first anniversary of the grant and each year thereafter until fully vested. Finally, some newly appointed or elected directors received a grant of 50 shares of restricted stock. Dr. Cooley received such a grant in fiscal 2008. At his request, Mr. Biglari declined to receive a grant. These shares have a three year restriction on transfer, and if a recipient ceases serving as a director for any reason other than death, disability or retirement during this period he or she will forfeit the stock.

COMPENSATION COMMITTEE INTERLOCKS AND INSIDER PARTICIPATION

During fiscal year 2009 the Compensation Committee of our Board of Directors consisted of Philip L. Cooley, Ruth J. Person, John W. Ryan, William J. Regan, Jr., and Steven M. Schmidt. None of these individuals has at any time been an officer or employee of the Corporation. During fiscal year 2009, none of our executive officers served as a member of the board of directors or compensation committee of any entity for which a member of our Board of Directors or Compensation Committee served as an executive officer.

Table of Contents

GOVERNANCE, COMPENSATION, AND NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Governance, Compensation, and Nominating Committee of the Board of Directors is composed of the persons identified below. We have reviewed and discussed with management the Compensation Discussion and Analysis contained in this proxy statement on pages 15 to 19. Based on our review and discussions with management, we recommended to the Board of Directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in the Corporation's Annual Report on Form 10-K/A for the fiscal year ended September 3, 2009, and this proxy statement. Submitted by the members of the Governance, Compensation, and Nominating Committee of the Board of Directors:

John W. Ryan, William J. Regan, Jr., Ruth J. Person, and Philip L. Cooley.

Table of Contents

SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT

The following table shows as of June 23, 2010 the number and percentage of outstanding shares of our Common Stock beneficially owned by each person or entity known to be the beneficial owner of more than 5% of our Common Stock:

Name & Address of Beneficial Owner	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership	Percent of Class
The Lion Fund, L.P. 175 East Houston Street, Suite 1300 San Antonio, Texas 78205	209,550 (1)	14.6
GAMCO Investors, Inc. One Corporate Center Rye, New York 10580-1435	131,080 (2)	9.1
Dimensional Fund Advisors LP Palisades West, Building One 6300 Bee Cave Road Austin, Texas, 78746	105,258 (3)	7.3
Blackrock, Inc. 40 East 52nd Street New York, NY 10022	97,842 (4)	6.8

1) This information was obtained from a Schedule 13D/A filed with the SEC on June 23, 2010 by The Lion Fund, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership (“Lion Fund”), Biglari Capital Corp., a Texas corporation (“BCC”), Western Acquisitions L.P., a Delaware limited partnership (“Western Acquisitions”), Western Investments Inc., a Delaware corporation (“Western Investments”), Western Sizzlin Corp., a Delaware corporation (“WSC”), Sardar Biglari, Philip L. Cooley, The Steak n Shake 401(k) Savings Plan (the “401(k) Plan”) and The Steak n Shake Non-Qualified Savings Plan (the “Non-Qualified Savings Plan”). By virtue of his relationships with the other reporting persons discussed in the Schedule 13D/A, Mr. Biglari may be deemed to have the sole power to vote and dispose of the shares beneficially owned by the reporting persons, other than the shares held under each of the 401(k) Plan and the Non-Qualified Savings Plan and the shares beneficially owned by Dr. Cooley. Mr. Biglari has sole power to direct the voting of the shares held under each of the 401(k) Plan and the Non-Qualified Savings Plan. Mr. Biglari shares with Dr. Cooley the power to vote and dispose of the shares beneficially owned by Dr. Cooley. Mr. Biglari disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares that he does not directly own.

2) This information was obtained from a Schedule 13D/A filed with the SEC on June 4, 2010.

3) This information was obtained from a Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on February 8, 2010.

4) This information was obtained from a Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on January 29, 2010.

Table of Contents

The following table shows the total number of shares of our Common Stock beneficially owned as of June 23, 2010 and the percentage of outstanding shares for (i) each director, (ii) each executive officer named in the Summary Compensation Table, and (iii) all directors and executive officers, as a group:

Name & Address of Beneficial Owner	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership	Percent of Class
Sardar Biglari	209,550 (1)	14.6
Philip L. Cooley	4,282 (2)	*
Duane E. Geiger	3,082 (3)	*
Dennis Roberts	251 (4)	*
Omar Janjua	1,906 (5)	*
Thomas Murrill	— (6)	—
Ruth J. Person	793 (7)	*
William J. Regan, Jr.	573 (8)	*
John W. Ryan	1,252 (9)	*
All directors and executive officers as a group (9 persons)	217,407 (10)	15.2

*Less than 1%.

All information provided in the table reflects the 1-for-20 reverse stock split effective as of the end of business December 18, 2009.

1) Includes 4,001 shares owned directly by Mr. Biglari, 198,507 shares owned directly by the Lion Fund, 2,386 shares owned directly by Western Acquisitions, 368 shares held under the 401(k) Plan, 6 shares held under the Non-Qualified Savings Plan and 4,282 shares beneficially owned by Dr. Cooley. See footnote 1 above.

2) Includes 550 shares by Dr. Cooley's spouse.

3) Includes 1,604 shares that may be acquired pursuant to stock options exercisable within 60 days.

4) This information was taken from the last Form 4 filed with the SEC by Mr. Roberts.

5) This information was taken from the last Form 4 Mr. Janjua filed with the SEC.

6) This information was taken from the last Form 4 Mr. Murrill filed with the SEC.

7) Includes 437 shares that may be acquired pursuant to stock options exercisable within 60 days.

8) This information was taken from the last Form 4 Mr. Regan, Jr. filed with the SEC.

9) Includes 437 shares that may be acquired pursuant to stock options exercisable within 60 days.

10) Includes 874 shares that may be acquired pursuant to stock options exercisable within 60 days.

Table of Contents

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements contained in this proxy statement constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). We intend such forward-looking statements to be covered by the safe harbor provisions for forward-looking statements contained in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, and are including this statement for purposes of invoking these safe harbor provisions. You can identify these statements from our use of the words "plan," "forecast," "estimate," "project," "believe," "intend," "anticipate," "expect," "target," "is likely," "will," and other expressions. These forward-looking statements may include, among other things:

- statements and assumptions relating to financial performance;
- statements relating to the anticipated effects on results of operations or financial condition of recent or future developments or events;
- statements relating to our capital raising activities, business and growth strategies; and
- any other statements, projections or assumptions that are not historical facts.

Forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other important factors that could cause our actual results, performance or achievements to differ materially from our expectations of future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. In addition, our past results of operations do not necessarily indicate our future results. We discuss these and other uncertainties in the "Risk Factors" section of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2009. We undertake no obligation to update publicly any of these statements in light of future events.

PROPOSALS BY SHAREHOLDERS

Any shareholder proposal intended to be considered for inclusion in the proxy statement for presentation at the 2011 Annual Meeting must be received by the Corporation by November 8, 2010. The proposal must be in accordance with the provisions of Rule 14a-8 promulgated by the SEC under the Exchange Act. It is suggested the proposal be submitted by certified mail – return receipt requested. The Corporation reserves the right to reject, rule out of order, or take other appropriate action with respect to any proposal that does not comply with these and other applicable requirements.

OTHER MATTERS

As of the date of this proxy statement, our Board of Directors does not know of any matter that will be presented for consideration at the Special Meeting other than as described in this proxy statement.

By order of the Board of Directors

/s/ Sardar Biglari

Sardar Biglari,
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

San Antonio, Texas

July 29, 2010

37

Table of Contents

Table of Contents

	Page
<u>PROPOSAL ONE: APPROVAL OF THE TAX DEDUCTIBILITY WITHIN THE INCENTIVE BONUS AGREEMENT</u>	1
<u>PROPOSAL TWO: SHAREHOLDER PROPOSAL REGARDING POULTRY SLAUGHTER</u>	13
<u>EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION</u>	15
<u>SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT</u>	35
<u>SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	37
<u>PROPOSALS BY SHAREHOLDERS</u>	37
<u>OTHER MATTERS</u>	37
<u>ANNEX A: INCENTIVE BONUS AGREEMENT SUBMITTED FOR SHAREHOLDER APPROVAL</u>	A-1

Table of Contents

ANNEX A

INCENTIVE BONUS AGREEMENT

THIS INCENTIVE BONUS AGREEMENT (the “Agreement”), dated as of this 30th day of April, 2010, by and between BIGLARI HOLDINGS INC., an Indiana corporation (“Company”), and SARDAR BIGLARI (“Executive”).

W I T N E S S E T H:

WHEREAS, the parties hereto desire to enter into this Incentive Bonus Agreement to define and set forth the terms and conditions of certain compensation to be paid to Executive by Company;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements set forth below, it is hereby covenanted and agreed by Company and Executive as follows:

1. Employment. Executive is currently the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Company. The terms and provisions of this Agreement shall apply during the term of employment of Executive with Company and for such periods after such term of employment as provided herein. Executive’s employment with Company is at-will and nothing contained herein shall be deemed to create any other employment relationship between Company and Executive.

2. Compensation and Other Benefits. Subject to the provisions of this Agreement, Company shall pay and provide the following compensation to Executive (together with Executive’s annual base salary, the “Cash Compensation”):

(a) Incentive Compensation.

(i) Company shall pay to Executive, determined as of the last day of each fiscal year of Company (including any fiscal year in which any of the events set forth in Section 4(a) occur) (“Incentive Compensation Calculation Date”), incentive compensation equal to the Incentive Compensation Amount (as defined below) as of such Incentive Compensation Calculation Date; provided, however, that no duplicate Incentive Compensation Amount shall be paid to Executive in any fiscal year. The Incentive Compensation Amount shall be paid to Executive as promptly as practicable after each Incentive Compensation Calculation Date, and in no event later than 75 days thereafter (the “Payment Date”), subject to Section 6(c). The “Incentive Compensation Amount” means the amount computed (subject to proration with respect to any fiscal year during the term of this Agreement in which any of the events set forth in Section 4(a) occurs, determined based on the date of such event) using the following formula where “x” equals 1.05 (subject to proration for the 2010 fiscal year and any short fiscal year during the term of this Agreement) with respect to which the Incentive Compensation Amount is determined):

$$(0.25)(\text{New Book Value} - ((\text{High Water Mark})(x)))$$

Table of Contents

(ii) “Book Value” equals the amount of Total Shareholders’ Equity as set forth in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position of the Company, prepared in accordance with the accounting principles adopted by Company (as set forth in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the applicable fiscal year), as of the applicable Incentive Compensation Calculation Date. Book Value as of the applicable Incentive Compensation Calculation Date shall be determined by reference to the consolidated net income and other comprehensive income of the Company, and appropriate adjustments to such Book Value shall be made for any dividends, shares issuances or buybacks and other factors in accordance with Exhibit A hereto (but Book Value for the next succeeding Incentive Compensation Calculation Date shall not reflect such prior adjustments). The computations and procedures required to calculate Book Value, including without limitation, any accounting procedures used to implement any adjustments, allocations and other matters, shall be made in such reasonable manner as the Company in good faith shall determine to be appropriate and in accordance with Exhibit A hereto, and shall be subject to the approval of the Governance, Compensation and Nominating Committee (the “Committee”) of the Board of Directors of the Company (the “Board”).

(iii) “New Book Value” equals the Book Value as the most recent Incentive Compensation Calculation Date.

(iv) “High Water Mark” equals the highest Book Value after reduction for the Incentive Compensation Amount then paid, as of any preceding Incentive Compensation Calculation Date (but without giving effect to any adjustments made with respect to such Incentive Compensation Calculation Date). In the case of the first Incentive Compensation Calculation Date, such High Water Mark shall mean the Book Value as of July 7, 2010.