

**COUCHBASE, INC.****CORPORATE GOVERNANCE GUIDELINES**

(Adopted on June 16, 2021; Effective upon effectiveness of the registration statement relating to Couchbase's initial public offering)

The Board of Directors (the "**Board**") of Couchbase, Inc. ("**Couchbase**") has adopted the following Corporate Governance Guidelines (these "**Guidelines**") to assist the Board in the exercise of its responsibilities and to serve the interests of Couchbase and its stockholders in a manner that is consistent with its fiduciary duties.

**A. The Board**1. Role

It is the principal duty of the Board to exercise its powers in accordance with its fiduciary duties to Couchbase and in a manner it reasonably believes to be in the best interests of Couchbase and its stockholders. It is also the Board's duty to oversee senior management in the competent and ethical operation of Couchbase. To satisfy this duty, the directors will take a proactive, focused approach to their position and set standards to ensure that Couchbase is committed to business excellence, ethical and honest conduct and highest levels of integrity. Directors bring to Couchbase a wide range of experience, knowledge and judgment and will use their skills and competencies in the exercise of their duties as directors of Couchbase.

2. Size

The number of directors that constitutes the Board will be fixed from time to time by a resolution adopted by the Board in conformity with Couchbase's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (the "**Certificate**") and Amended and Restated Bylaws (the "**Bylaws**"). The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee of the Board (the "**Nominating Committee**") periodically reviews the size of the Board to ensure that the current number of directors most effectively supports Couchbase.

3. Composition

There will at all times be a majority of independent directors on the Board. An "independent director" is a person who meets the definition of independent director under rules of the stock exchange on which Couchbase's securities are listed and does not have any other relationship with Couchbase that, in the opinion of the Board, would interfere with the exercise of independent judgment in carrying out director responsibilities.

4. Lead Independent Director

If the Board does not have an independent Chairperson, a lead independent director ("**Lead Independent Director**") will be appointed by the Board. The Lead Independent Director will be responsible for calling separate meetings of the independent directors, determining the agenda and serving as chairperson of meetings of independent directors, reporting to Couchbase's Chief Executive Officer ("**CEO**") and President, as well as the Chairperson of the Board, regarding feedback from executive sessions, serving as spokesperson for Couchbase as requested and performing such other responsibilities as may be designated by a majority of the independent directors from time to time. If a Lead Independent Director is appointed, their identity will be disclosed in Couchbase's annual proxy statement and/or published on the investor relations page of Couchbase's website.

## 5. Executive Sessions

The independent directors of Couchbase will meet in executive sessions without employee directors or management present on a periodic basis but no less than twice a year.

## 6. Director Qualifications

The Nominating Committee works with the Board to determine periodically, as appropriate, the desired Board qualifications, expertise and characteristics, including such factors as business experience and diversity; and with respect to diversity, the Nominating Committee may consider such factors as differences in professional background, education, skill and other individual qualities and attributes that contribute to the total mix of viewpoints and experience represented on the Board.

The Nominating Committee and the Board evaluate each director in the context of the membership of the Board as a group, with the objective of having a group that can best perpetuate the success of the business and represent stockholder interests through the exercise of sound judgment using its diversity of background and experience in the various areas. Each director should be an individual of high character and integrity. In determining whether to recommend a director for re-election, the Nominating Committee also considers the director's past attendance at meetings, participation in and contributions to the activities of the Board and Couchbase and other qualifications and characteristics set forth in the charter of the Nominating Committee.

Each director must ensure that other existing and anticipated future commitments do not materially interfere with the director's service as a director. Any employee director must submit their offer of resignation from the Board in writing to the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee upon termination of employment with Couchbase. Upon a change of their principal employer, a non-employee director shall promptly inform the Board. "**Non-employee directors**" are all directors who are not Couchbase employees, including both independent directors and such directors who are not independent directors by virtue of a material relationship, former status or family membership, or for any other reason. The Nominating Committee shall assess the appropriateness of such non-employee director remaining on the Board and shall recommend to the Board whether to request that such non-employee director tender their resignation. If so requested, such non-employee director is expected to promptly tender their resignation from the Board and all committees thereof in writing to the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee.

## 7. Limitation on Other Board Service

Directors should advise the Nominating Committee of any invitations to join the board of directors of any other public company prior to accepting the directorship. No director should serve on more than four additional public company boards without the approval of the Board. The Board, through the Nominating Committee, will have the opportunity to review the appropriateness of the continued service of a director who changes the role, position or areas of responsibility that they held when they were elected to the Board.

Service on other boards and/or committees should be consistent with Couchbase's conflict of interest policies set forth below.

## 8. Selection of New Directors

Our Board is divided into three classes. As a result, approximately one-third of the Board will stand for election for a three-year term by the stockholders of Couchbase each year at Couchbase's annual meeting of stockholders. Each year, at Couchbase's annual meeting of stockholders, the Board will nominate a slate of directors for election by the stockholders. In accordance with the Bylaws, the Board will also be responsible for filling vacancies or newly-created directorships on the Board that may occur between annual meetings of stockholders. The Nominating Committee is responsible for identifying and screening candidates for Board membership and recommending candidates to the entire Board for Board membership.

#### 9. Directors Who Become Aware of Circumstances that May Adversely Reflect Upon the Director or Couchbase

When a director, including any director who is currently an officer or employee of Couchbase, becomes aware of circumstances that may adversely reflect upon the director, any other director or Couchbase, the director should notify the Nominating Committee of such circumstances. The Nominating Committee will consider the circumstances, and may in certain cases request the director to cease the conflicting activity, or in more severe cases, request that the director submit their resignation from the Board if, for example, continuing service on the Board by the individual is not consistent with the criteria deemed necessary for continuing service on the Board.

#### 10. Term Limits

Term limits may result in the loss of long-serving directors who over time have developed unique and valuable insights into Couchbase's business and therefore can provide a significant contribution to the Board. Because each director is periodically subject to election by Couchbase's stockholders, the Board does not believe it is in the best interests of Couchbase to establish term limits.

#### 11. Compensation

The compensation of directors will be approved by the Board upon recommendation of the Compensation Committee of the Board (the "**Compensation Committee**"), which will take into account the directors' independence status. Senior management of Couchbase or a compensation consultant will report once a year to the Compensation Committee regarding the status of Couchbase's director compensation in relation to comparable companies. This report will include consideration of independence, employee status and both direct and indirect forms of compensation to Couchbase's directors, including any charitable contributions by Couchbase to organizations in which a non-employee director is involved. Following a review of the report, the Compensation Committee will recommend any changes in director compensation to the Board, which will then approve the director compensation. Couchbase's employees will not receive additional compensation for their service as directors.

#### 12. Conflicts of Interest

Directors are expected to avoid any action, position or interest that conflicts with the interests of Couchbase or gives the appearance of a conflict. If an actual or potential conflict of interest develops, the director will report all facts regarding the matter to the Chairperson of the Audit Committee of the Board (the "**Audit Committee**"). Any material conflict must be resolved or the director should resign. If a director has a personal interest in a matter before the Board, the director must disclose the interest to the Board, excuse themselves from discussion and abstain from voting on the matter.

#### 13. Interaction with the Press, Members and Others

The Board believes that management speaks for Couchbase. Each director should refer all inquiries from the press, members or others regarding Couchbase's operations to management. Individual Board members may, from time to time, at the request of the management, meet or otherwise communicate with various constituencies that are involved with Couchbase. If comments from the Board are appropriate, they should, in most circumstances, come from the Chairperson of the Board or the Lead Independent Director in compliance with Couchbase's Regulation FD Compliance and External Communications Policy.

#### 14. Board Access to Senior Management

The Board has access to management in order to ensure that directors can ask any questions and receive all information necessary to perform their duties. Directors should exercise judgment to ensure that their contact with management does not distract managers from their jobs or disturb the business operations of Couchbase.

#### 15. Board Access to Independent Advisors

The Board committees may hire independent advisors, such as auditors, compensation consultants, legal counsel and other advisors. The Board as a whole will have access to these advisors and other independent advisors that Couchbase retains or that the Board considers necessary or advisable in performing its responsibilities.

#### 16. Director Orientation Continuing Education

The directors and Couchbase are committed to ensuring that all directors receive orientation and continuing education. Couchbase shall reimburse any non-employee director for expenses related to director orientation and continuing education related to such director's service to the Board and its committees, in accordance with guidelines recommended by the Nominating Committee and approved by the Board.

#### 17. Annual Self-Evaluation

The Nominating Committee will oversee an annual self-evaluation by the Board, each committee of the Board and each director. The Nominating Committee will be responsible for establishing the evaluation criteria and implementing the process for this evaluation, as well as considering other corporate governance principles that may, from time to time, merit consideration by the Board.

The Nominating Committee will utilize the results of the Board evaluation process in assessing and determining the characteristics and critical skills required of prospective candidates for election to the Board and for current directors seeking re-election in an effort to further the interests of Couchbase and its stockholders in a manner consistent with Couchbase's mission and core values.

### **B. Board Meetings; Stockholder Meetings; Involvement of Senior Management**

#### 1. Board Meeting Attendance

The Board will meet on a periodic basis, in person or by teleconference, at such times and places as the Board determines. In addition, special meetings may be called from time to time. Directors are expected to attend each meeting and to invest the time and effort necessary to understand Couchbase's business and financial strategies and challenges. The basic duties of the directors include being prepared for and attending Board meetings and actively participating in Board discussions. Directors are also expected to make themselves available outside of Board meetings for advice and consultation. A director who is unable to attend a Board or committee meeting should notify the Board or committee Chairperson and the CEO in advance of the meeting.

#### 2. Annual Meeting of Stockholders Attendance

Each director is strongly encouraged to attend each of Couchbase's annual meetings of stockholders.

#### 3. Attendance of Non-Directors

The Board encourages invitations to management and outside advisors or consultants from time to time to participate in Board and/or committee meetings to (i) make presentations and provide insight into items being discussed by the Board that involve the invitee and (ii) bring managers with high potential into contact with the Board. Attendance of any non-directors at Board meetings is at the discretion of the Board.

#### 4. Advance Receipt of Meeting Materials

Information regarding the topics to be considered at a meeting is essential to the Board's understanding of the business and the preparation of the directors for a productive meeting. To the extent feasible, the meeting agenda and any written materials relating to each Board meeting will be distributed to

the directors sufficiently in advance of each meeting to allow for review of the agenda and materials. Directors are expected to have reviewed and be prepared to discuss all materials distributed in advance of any meeting.

## **C. Committee Matters**

### 1. Number, Name, Responsibilities and Independence of Committees

The Board currently has three (3) standing committees: the Audit Committee, the Compensation Committee and the Nominating Committee. The Audit Committee, Compensation Committee and Nominating Committee are each composed of independent directors. From time to time, the Board may form or disband an ad hoc or standing Board committee, depending upon the circumstances. Each committee will perform its duties as assigned by the Board in compliance with the Bylaws and the committee's charter.

### 2. Assignment and Rotation of Committee Members

Based on the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, the Board appoints committee members and committee chairpersons in accordance with applicable law and according to criteria set forth in the applicable committee charter and other criteria that the Board determines to be relevant to the responsibilities of each committee. Committee membership and the position of committee chairperson will not be rotated on a mandatory or regular basis unless the Board determines that rotation is in the best interest of Couchbase.

### 3. Frequency of Committee Meetings and Agendas

The committee chairpersons and appropriate members of management, in accordance with the committee's charter and, as appropriate, in consultation with the committee members, will determine the frequency and length of the committee meetings and develop the meeting agendas. Committee chairpersons will summarize committee discussions and actions with the full Board.

### 4. Committee Charters

Each committee will periodically review its charter and recommend to the Board any changes it deems necessary.

## **D. Stockholder-Director Communications Policy**

The Board believes that stockholders should have an opportunity to send communications to the non-management members of the Board. The Board believes that management speaks for Couchbase but individual directors may, from time to time, communicate with various constituencies that are involved with Couchbase. It is expected that directors would do this with knowledge of management and, in most instances, only at the request of management. In cases where stockholders wish to communicate directly with our non-management directors, messages can be sent to our Chief Legal Officer at Couchbase, Inc., 3250 Olcott Street, Santa Clara, California 95054.

Each communication should set forth (i) the name and address of the stockholder, as it appears on Couchbase's books, and if Couchbase's common stock is held by a nominee, the name and address of the beneficial owner of Couchbase's common stock and (ii) the number of shares of Couchbase's common stock that are owned of record by the record holder and beneficially by the beneficial owner.

Our Chief Legal Officer or Legal Department, in consultation with appropriate directors as necessary, shall review all incoming stockholder communications (except for mass mailings, product complaints or inquiries, job inquiries, business solicitations and patently offensive or otherwise inappropriate material) and, if appropriate, will route such communications to the appropriate director(s) or, if none is specified, to the Chairperson of the Board or the Lead Independent Director if there is not an independent Chairperson of the Board.

Our Chief Legal Officer or Legal Department may decide in the exercise of their or its judgment whether a response to any stockholder communication is necessary and shall provide a report to the Nominating Committee on a quarterly basis of any stockholder communications received for which the Chief Legal Officer or Legal Department has responded.

These policies and procedures for stockholder communications with the non-management directors are administered by the Nominating Committee. These policies and procedures do not apply to (i) communications to non-management directors from officers or directors of Couchbase who are stockholders or (ii) stockholder proposals submitted pursuant to Rule 14a-8 under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

#### **E. Interpretation**

These Guidelines should be interpreted and construed in the context of all applicable laws and the Certificate, the Bylaws and other corporate governance documents.

#### **F. Amendment**

The Board is committed to continuously reviewing and updating our policies, and the Board therefore reserves the right to amend these Guidelines at any time, for any reason, subject to applicable law.