

ZION OIL & GAS INC  
Form DEF 14A  
April 25, 2014

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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

Filed by  Registrant

Filed by Party   
other than  
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 Materials Pursuant to  
§240.14a-12

ZION OIL & GAS, INC.  
(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

N/A  
(Name of Person(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.

- (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

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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:

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ZION OIL & GAS, INC.  
6510 ABRAMS RD, SUITE 300  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75231

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 2014 Annual Meeting (the "Annual Meeting") of the Stockholders of ZION OIL & GAS, INC. (the "Company") will be held at 2:00 P.M (local time) on June 9, 2014 at the Dan Caesarea Hotel in Caesarea, Israel to

1. Elect four directors as Class III directors of the Company to serve for a term of three years;
2. Ratify the appointment of MaloneBailey, LLP, as the independent registered public accounting firm of the Company for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2014;
3. Approve, in a nonbinding advisory vote, the compensation of the Company's Named Executive Officers;
4. Approve, in a nonbinding advisory vote, the frequency of future nonbinding advisory votes on the compensation of the Company's Named Executive Officers; and
5. Conduct such other business as may properly come before the Annual Meeting and any adjournment(s) thereof.

The foregoing items of business are more fully described in the Proxy Statement that accompanies this Notice. The Board of Directors has fixed the close of business on April 11, 2014 as the record date for the determination of stockholders entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the Annual Meeting or any adjournment thereof. Only stockholders of record at the close of business on the record date are entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the Annual Meeting.

Regardless of whether you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, please vote your shares as soon as possible so that we may have a quorum at the Annual Meeting, and your shares will be voted in accordance with your instructions. For specific voting instructions, please refer to the instructions on the proxy card or on the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials that was mailed to you. If you attend the Annual Meeting, you will have the right to revoke the proxy and vote your shares in person.

We look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting.

By Order of the Board of  
Directors

/s/ VICTOR G. CARRILLO  
Victor G. Carrillo  
President and Chief Operating  
Officer

April 25, 2014

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IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING INTERNET AVAILABILITY OF  
PROXY MATERIALS FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING AND ANNUAL REPORT

The Company's proxy materials and Annual Report on Form 10-K are available at [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com).

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ZION OIL & GAS, INC.  
6510 ABRAMS RD, SUITE 300  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75231

PROXY STATEMENT

For the Annual Meeting of Stockholders  
to be held on June 9, 2014

This Proxy Statement is being furnished in connection with the solicitation by the Board of Directors (the “Board of Directors” or the “Board”) of Zion Oil & Gas, Inc., a Delaware corporation (“Zion Oil” or the “Company”), of proxies to be voted at the 2014 Annual Meeting (the “Annual Meeting”) of the Company’s stockholders to be held at the Dan Caesarea Hotel in Caesarea, Israel on Monday, June 9, 2014, at 2:00 p.m. (Israel time) and any adjournment(s) thereof.

Pursuant to rules adopted by the SEC, we are providing stockholders of record as of the Record Date (defined below) with Internet access to our proxy materials. Our Board of Directors has made these proxy materials available to you on the Internet on or about April 25, 2014 at [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com), which is the website described in the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials (the “Notice”), mailed to stockholders of record. Doing so allows us to further our environmental objectives and the prudent use of resources by limiting waste generated from our Annual Meeting. Accordingly, we are sending the Notice to our stockholders of record as of the Record Date, and filing the Notice with the SEC, on or about April 25, 2014. In addition to our proxy materials being available for review at [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com), the site contains instructions on how to access the proxy materials over the Internet or to request a printed copy, free of charge. In addition, stockholders may request proxy materials in printed form by mail or electronically by e-mail on an ongoing basis by contacting our Investor Relations department at our principal executive offices in Dallas, Texas. We will also provide stockholders upon request and free of charge with a copy of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 filed with the SEC.

At the Annual Meeting, the stockholders will be asked to:

1. Elect four directors as Class III directors of the Company to serve for a term of three years;
2. Ratify the appointment of MaloneBailey, LLP, as the independent registered public accounting firm of the Company for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2014;
3. Approve, in a nonbinding advisory vote, the compensation of the Company’s Named Executive Officers;
4. Approve, in a nonbinding advisory vote, the frequency of future nonbinding advisory votes on the compensation of the Company’s Named Executive Officers; and
5. Conduct such other business as may properly come before the Annual Meeting and any adjournment(s) thereof.

To have a valid meeting of the stockholders, a quorum of the Company’s stockholders is necessary. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the shares of the Common Stock issued and outstanding and entitled to vote on the Record Date present in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting. Abstentions and broker non-votes shall be counted as

present for the purpose of determining the presence of a quorum. Stockholders who execute proxies retain the right to revoke them at any time by notice in writing to the Secretary of the Company, by revocation in person at the Annual Meeting or by presenting a later-dated proxy. Unless so revoked, the shares represented by proxies will be voted at the Annual Meeting. The shares represented by the proxies solicited by the Board of Directors of the Company will be voted in accordance with the directions given therein, but if no direction is given, such shares will be voted:

- (i) FOR the election as directors of the nominees of the Board of Directors named below;

- (ii) FOR the proposal to ratify the appointment of MaloneBailey as the independent registered public accounting firm of the Company for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2014,
- (iii) FOR the resolution regarding the compensation of the Company's Named Executive Officers;
- (iv) FOR every three years with respect to the proposal to provide an advisory vote on the frequency of future nonbinding advisory votes of the compensation of the Company's Named Executive Officers; and
- (v) unless otherwise restricted by law, in the discretion of the proxies named in the proxy on any other proposals to properly come before the Annual Meeting or any adjournment(s) thereof.

The Company is unaware of any additional matters not set forth in the Notice that will be presented for consideration at the Annual Meeting.

### VOTING RIGHTS

All voting rights are vested exclusively in the holders of Common Stock. Only holders of Common Stock of record at the close of business on April 11, 2014 (the "Record Date") are entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting. As of the Record Date, there were a total of 34,336,598 shares of Common Stock outstanding. Each holder of Common Stock entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting is entitled to one vote for each share held.

Stockholders holding a majority of the Common Stock issued and outstanding as of the Record Date, present in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting, will constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at the Annual Meeting or any adjournment(s) thereof. Assuming a quorum is present at the Annual Meeting,

- (i) the affirmative vote of a plurality of the shares having voting power present in person or by proxy is required for approval of Proposal No. 1 (election of directors); and
- (ii) the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares having voting power present in person or by proxy is required for approval of each of Proposal No. 2 (the ratification of the independent auditors for the year ended December 31, 2014), Proposal No. 3 (the advisory vote regarding the Company's Named Executive Officers) and Proposal No. 4 (the advisory vote on the frequency of future stockholder advisory votes on executive compensation). The vote regarding compensation of the Company's Named Executive Officers (Proposal No. 3) and the frequency of the stockholder vote on executive compensation (Proposal No. 4) are advisory and non-binding in nature, but our Compensation Committee will take into account the outcome of the votes when considering future executive compensation arrangements.

Under the rules that govern brokers who have record ownership of shares that are held in "street name" for their clients, who are the beneficial owners of the shares, brokers have discretion to vote these shares on "routine" matters, but not on non-routine matters. The proposal to elect four Class III directors (Proposal No. 1), and the proposal to consider a non-binding "say on pay" vote regarding the Company's executive compensation (Proposal No. 3) and the proposal on the frequency of future nonbinding advisory votes (Proposal No. 4) are considered non-routine matters on which banks, brokers and other nominees are not allowed to vote unless they have received voting instructions from the beneficial owner of the shares. Your bank, broker or other nominee will send you instructions on how you can instruct them to vote on these proposals. If you do not provide voting instructions, your bank, broker or other nominee will not vote your shares on these proposals. Therefore, your broker will not have discretionary authority to vote your shares with respect to Proposals No. 1, 3 and 4. A "broker non-vote" occurs when the broker does not receive voting instructions from the beneficial owner with respect to a non-routine matter and therefore the broker expressly indicates

on a proxy card that it is not voting on a matter.

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The proposal to ratify the appointment of MaloneBailey, LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2014 (Proposal No. 2) is considered a routine matter on which banks, brokers and other nominees may vote in their discretion on behalf of beneficial owners who have not provided voting instructions. Your bank, broker or other nominee will send you instructions on how you can instruct them to vote on this proposal. If you do not provide voting instructions, your bank, broker or other nominee will have discretionary authority to vote your shares with respect to this proposal.

Broker non-votes and abstentions are counted as shares present at the Annual Meeting for purposes of determining a quorum. However, to the extent your broker submits a broker non-vote with respect to your shares on a proposal, your shares will not be deemed shares "with voting power" with respect to that proposal. Accordingly, broker non-votes will have no effect on the outcome of the vote with respect to any of the proposals. Abstentions will have the effect of a negative vote.

If you hold shares in a brokerage account, brokers are not entitled to vote on Proposals 1, 3 and 4 in the absence of specific client instructions. Stockholders who hold shares in a brokerage account are encouraged to provide voting instructions to their broker. To vote shares held in street name at the Annual Meeting, you should contact your broker before the Annual Meeting to obtain a proxy form in your name.

#### How Can I Vote Without Attending the Annual Meeting?

There are three convenient methods for registered stockholders to direct their vote by proxy without attending the Annual Meeting:

**Vote by Internet.** You can vote via the Internet. The website address for Internet voting is provided on your Notice or proxy card. You will need to use the control number appearing on your Notice or proxy card to vote via the Internet. You can use the Internet to transmit your voting instructions up until 11:59 P.M. Eastern Time on June 6, 2014. Internet voting is available 24 hours a day. If you vote via the Internet, you do NOT need to vote by telephone or return a proxy card.

**Vote by Telephone.** You can also vote by telephone by calling the toll-free telephone number provided on the Internet link on your Notice or on your proxy card. You will need to use the control number appearing on your Notice or proxy card to vote by telephone. You may transmit your voting instructions from any touch-tone telephone up until 11:59 P.M. Eastern Time on June 6, 2014. Telephone voting is available 24 hours a day. If you vote by telephone, you do NOT need to vote over the Internet or return a proxy card.

**Vote by Mail.** If you received a printed copy of the proxy card, you can vote by marking, dating and signing it, and returning it in the postage-paid envelope provided. Please promptly mail your proxy card to ensure that it is received prior to the closing of the polls at the Annual Meeting.

#### STOCK OWNERSHIP OF MANAGEMENT AND CERTAIN BENEFICIAL HOLDERS

The following table sets forth information as of the Record Date concerning shares of our Common Stock beneficially owned by: (i) each director; (ii) each nominee for director, (iii) each Named Executive Officer (defined below); (iv) all directors and executive officers as a group; and (v) each person or group known by the Company to own beneficially more than 5% of the outstanding shares of Common Stock.

In accordance with the rules of the SEC, the table considers all shares of Common Stock that could be issued upon the exercise of outstanding options and warrants within 60 days of the Record Date to be outstanding for the purpose of

computing the percentage ownership of the person holding those securities, but does not consider those securities to be outstanding for computing the percentage ownership of any other person.. We have chosen to include the effect of the shares of Common Stock that could be issued upon the exercise of outstanding options and warrants through March 31, 2014. Unless otherwise noted in the footnotes to the table and subject to community property laws where applicable, the following individuals have sole voting and investment control with respect to the shares beneficially owned by them. Except as noted above, we have calculated the percentages of shares beneficially owned based on 34,336,598 shares of Common Stock outstanding on the Record Date.

The address of John M. Brown, Victor G. Carrillo, Paul Oroian, Forrest A. Garb, William H. Avery, Martin M. van Brauman, Justin W. Furnace, Gene Scammahorn and Kent Siegel is 6510 Abrams Rd., Suite 300, Dallas, TX 75231. The address of Ilan Sheena, Glen Perry and Yehezkel Druckman is 9 Halamish Street, Caesarea Industrial Park, 3088900 Israel.

Name of Beneficial Owner	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership	Percent of Class
John M. Brown	891,250 (2)	2.6 %
Victor G. Carrillo (1)	337,500 (3)	1.0
Ilan Sheena	225,750 (4)	*
Forrest A. Garb	93,147 (5)	*
William H. Avery (1)(6)	305,000 (7)	*
Paul Oroian (1)	105,160 (8)	*
Yehezkel Druckman (1)(9)	102,425 (10)	*
Glen Perry (11)	134,964 (12)	*
Justin W. Furnace	45,000 (13)	*
Gene Scammahorn	45,306 (14)	*
Kent Siegel	45,000 (15)	*
Martin M. van Brauman (16)	103,837 (17)	*
Group Total ** (12 members)	2,434,339	7.1 %

\* less than 1%

\*\* Based on 34,336,598 outstanding shares at Record Date

- (1) Nominee for Class III Director.
- (2) Comprised of (a) 375,000 shares of Common Stock owned by Mr. Brown, plus 30,000 shares jointly held with his wife (b) 100,000 shares of Common Stock owned by Mr. Brown's wife and (c) 386,250 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of stock options awarded under the stock option plans (the "Plans") which are currently exercisable or that become exercisable within 60 days following the Record Date. Does not include an additional 18,750 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of options previously granted under the Plans.

- (3) Comprised of (a) 25,000 shares of Common Stock owned by Mr. Carrillo and (b) 312,500 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of stock options awarded under the Plans which are currently exercisable or that become exercisable within 60 days following the Record Date. Does not include an additional 12,500 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of options previously granted under the Plans.
- (4) Comprised of (a) 57,500 shares of Common Stock owned by Mr. Sheena and (b) 168,250 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of stock options awarded under the Plans which are currently exercisable or that become exercisable within 60 days following the Record Date. Does not include an additional 18,750 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of options previously granted under the Plans.
- (5) Comprised of (a) 3,147 shares of Common Stock owned by Mr. Garb and (b) 90,000 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of stock options awarded under the Plans which are currently exercisable or that become exercisable within 60 days following the Record Date. Does not include an additional 5,000 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of options previously granted under the Plans.
- (6) Mr. Avery was appointed to the Board of Directors on September 1, 2013.
- (7) Comprised of (a) 250,000 shares of Common Stock owned by Mr. Avery and (b) 55,000 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of stock options awarded under the Plans which are currently exercisable or that become exercisable within 60 days following the Record Date. Does not include an additional 5,000 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of options previously issued under the Plans.
- (8) Comprised of (a) 15,160 shares of Common Stock owned by Mr. Oroian and (b) 90,000 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of options awarded under the Plans which are currently exercisable or that become exercisable within 60 days following the Record Date. Does not include an additional 5,000 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of options previously issued under the Plans.
- (9) Dr. Druckman was appointed as our Vice President of Israel Exploration on March 18, 2013.
- (10) Comprised of (a) 17,425 shares of Common Stock owned by Dr. Druckman and (b) 85,000 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of options awarded under the Plans which are currently exercisable or that become exercisable within 60 days following the Record Date. Does not include an additional 5,000 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of options previously granted under the Plans.
- (11) Mr. Perry was appointed to the Board of Directors on July 1, 2013.
- (12) Comprised of (a) 109,964 shares of Common Stock owned by Mr. Perry and (b) 25,000 shares issuable upon exercise of options awarded to Mr. Perry under the Plans which are currently exercisable or that become exercisable within 60 days following the Record Date.
- (13) Comprised of (a) 5,000 shares of Common Stock owned by Mr. Furnace and (b) 40,000 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of options awarded to Mr. Furnace under the Plans which are currently exercisable or that become exercisable within 60 days following the Record Date. Does not include an additional 5,000 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of options previously granted under the Plans.
- (14) Comprised of (a) 306 shares of Common Stock owned by Mr. Scammahorn and (b) 45,000 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of options awarded to Mr. Scammahorn under the Plans which are currently exercisable or that become exercisable within 60 days following the Record Date. Does not include an additional 5,000 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of options previously granted under the Plans.



- (15) Comprised of 45,000 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of options awarded to Mr. Siegel under the Plans which are currently exercisable or that become exercisable within 60 days following the Record Date. Does not include an additional 5,000 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of options previously granted under the Plans.
- (16) Mr. van Brauman was appointed to the Board of Directors on April 1, 2014.
- (17) Comprised of (a) 30,000 shares of Common Stock owned by Mr. van Brauman, plus 2,587 shares jointly held with his wife and (b) 71,250 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of stock options awarded under the Plans, which are currently exercisable. Does not include an additional 8,750 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of options previously granted under the Plans.

### EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION OVERVIEW

We are currently considered a “smaller reporting company” for purposes of the SEC’s executive compensation and other disclosure rules. As such, we have opted to take advantage of the scaled disclosure requirements afforded to smaller reporting companies. The executive compensation disclosures that follow are compliant with the SEC’s executive compensation disclosure rules for smaller reporting companies and, therefore, are generally narrower in scope than the (and, in some cases, eliminate) executive compensation disclosures that we provided with respect to the fiscal years ended 2010 and 2011 (when we were not considered a smaller reporting company).

Our current “Named Executive Officers” are:

- John Brown —Executive Chairman and Chief Executive Officer;
- Victor G. Carrillo —President and Chief Operating Officer; and
- Ilan Sheena — Chief Financial Officer and Managing Director Israel Branch.

### Compensation Philosophy

We believe that the skill and dedication of our executive officers and other management personnel are critical factors affecting our long-term success. We have been engaged in the exploration of oil and gas in onshore Israel since 2000 and continue to face a very challenging environment. Our ultimate success will depend, in part, upon our talented employees and the leadership provided by our Named Executive Officers. We have designed our executive compensation program to achieve the following objectives:

- Attract and retain highly qualified talent. We need to attract, motivate, and retain management talent of high quality in a competitive market.
- Align the interests of our executives with stockholders. We strive to align the interests of Zion’s management and stockholders, towards the overall success of the Company, by planning and working towards multi-well, long-term exploration and drilling programs in Israel, aimed at discovering and producing commercial quantities of oil and gas in Israel.
- Manage resources efficiently. Employee compensation is a significant expense for us. We strive to manage our compensation programs so as to balance our need to reward and retain executives with our goal of preserving stockholder value. In addition, given the importance of preserving cash reserves for our exploration program, we seek to provide executives with significant equity compensation in order to

encourage them to accept lower cash compensation than they might be able to receive elsewhere.

Zion Oil's executive compensation programs are designed to compensate individual management personnel based on a number of factors, including:

- the individual's position and responsibilities within the Company;
- the overall importance of the individual's responsibilities in helping the Company achieve success;
- specific tasks that the individual may be required to perform during a particular time period;
- the individual's skill set, experience and education;
- market conditions, as measured by (among other things) feedback from recruiters and the Company's knowledge of peer company compensation policies;
- geographical considerations, including the cost of living associated with the USA and Israel, where the Company's offices are located;
- advice from third party economic consulting and compensation firms;
- the Company's performance in areas for which the individual has responsibility; and
- the Company's overall performance in its mission.

#### Compensation Components

In an effort to meet these objectives, our executive compensation program consists of the following components:

- **Base Salary.** The Compensation Committee believes that base salary should provide executives with a predictable income sufficient to attract and retain strong talent in a competitive marketplace. We generally strive to set executive base salaries at levels that we believe enable us to hire and retain individuals in a competitive environment.
- **Equity Award.** The Compensation Committee believes that long-term equity incentives, such as stock options, focus executives on increasing long-term shareholder value.
- **Discretionary Cash Bonus Award.** The Compensation Committee has historically awarded cash bonuses on occasion to reward significant individual contributions or to act as an incentive.
- **General Benefits.** We provide generally competitive benefits packages, such as medical, life and disability insurance, to our executives on the same terms as our other employees.

The Compensation Committee typically reviews our executive officers' compensation on an annual basis. Our Chief Executive Officer recommends to the Compensation Committee the goals, objectives and compensation for all executive officers, except himself, and responds to requests for information from the Compensation Committee. Except for these roles, Zion's executive officers do not have a role in approving goals and objectives or in determining compensation of executive officers or non-employee directors. Our Chief Executive Officer has no role in approving his own compensation.

We believe that the compensation provided to our executive officers is reasonable and appropriate to facilitate the achievement of our long-term objectives. The compensation programs and policies that our Compensation Committee



has designed incentivize our executive officers to perform at a level necessary to achieve our desired objectives. We believe that the various elements of compensation combine to align the best interests of our executive officers with our stockholders and our company in order to maximize stockholder value.

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## EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The following table sets forth the total compensation received for services rendered in all capacities to our Company for the last three fiscal years, which was awarded to, earned by, or paid to our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and other Named Executive Officers.

Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary	Bonus	Option Awards (1)	All Other Compensation (2)	Total
John Brown, Executive Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (3)	2011	165,000	-	683,022	76,242	924,264
	2012	207,000	-	52,616	41,534	301,150
	2013	207,000	31,026	-	68,115	306,141
Victor G. Carrillo, President and Chief Operating Officer	2011	242,063	7,500	414,114	24,519	688,196
	2012	250,000	25,000	94,926	30,783	400,709
	2013	250,000	1,026	73,544	39,220	363,790
Ilan Sheena, Chief Financial Officer and Managing Director Israel Branch	2011	150,958	-	288,933	47,638	487,529
	2012	171,322	20,000	58,775	58,820	308,917
	2013	188,479	1,329	53,123	69,844	312,775

1. In accordance with SEC rules, the amounts in this column reflect the fair value on the grant date of the option awards granted to the Named Executive, calculated in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718. Stock options were valued using the Black-Scholes model. The grant-date fair value does not necessarily reflect the value of shares which may be received in the future with respect to these awards. The grant-date fair value of the stock options in this column is a non-cash expense for Zion that reflects the fair value of the stock options on the grant date and therefore does not affect our cash balance. The fair value of the stock options will likely vary from the actual value the holder receives because the actual value depends on the number of options exercised and the market price of our Common Stock on the date of exercise. For a discussion of the assumptions made in the valuation of the stock options, see Note 6F to our financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013. To see the value actually received by the Named Executive Officers in fiscal 2013, see the "Option Exercises and Stock Vested" in fiscal 2013 Table below.

2. For 2013, represents the compensation as described under the caption "All Other Compensation" below.

3. Mr. John Brown, the Company's founder and Chairman since 2001, was also appointed as Interim Chief Executive Officer on October 18, 2012 and Chief Executive Officer on January 1, 2014.

## All Other Compensation

The following table provides information regarding each component of compensation for 2013 included in the All Other Compensation column in the Summary Compensation Table above.

Name	Perquisites and Other Personal Benefits (1)	Automobile Related Expenses (2)	Insurance Related Expenses (3)	Israel Related Social Benefits (4)	Total
John Brown	2,035	9,053	57,027	-	68,115
Victor G. Carrillo	2,692	9,231	27,297	-	39,220
Ilan Sheena*	1,329	26,097	-	42,418	69,844

1. Represents for Mr. Brown cell phone expense (\$2,035); Represents for Mr. Carrillo, cell phone expenses (\$2,067) and professional dues (\$625); Represents for Mr. Sheena, cell phone expenses (\$1,329).

2. Represents for Mr. Brown, a leased automobile cost; Represents for Mr. Carrillo, a leased automobile cost; Represents for Mr. Sheena, tax cost in respect of the use of a leased vehicle (\$12,803) and a leased automobile cost (\$13,294).

3. Represents for Messrs. Brown and Carrillo, direct cash payments to providers of health, dental, life, vision, and disability insurance.

4. These are comprised of contribution by the Company to savings, severance, pension, disability and insurance plans generally provided in Israel, including education funds and managerial insurance funds. For Mr. Sheena, this amount represents Israeli severance fund payments (\$15,614), managerial insurance funds (\$9,372), disability insurance (\$3,374), and supplemental education fund contribution (\$14,058).

\* Represents amounts paid in New Israeli Shekels (NIS) and converted at average exchange rates for the year.

## Grant of Plan Based Awards in 2013

The table below sets forth information regarding grants of plan-based awards made to our Named Executive Officers during 2013.

Name	Approval Date (1)	Grant Date (1)	Option Awards:		Exercise or Base Price of Option Awards (\$/Share)	Grant Date Fair Value of Option Awards (\$)
			Number of Securities Underlying Options (#)			
John Brown	-	-	-		-	-
Victor G. Carrillo	11/11/2013	11/11/2013	25,000	(2)	\$0.01	\$38,520
	12/31/2013	12/31/2013	25,000	(3)	\$0.01	\$35,024
Ilan Sheena	6/28/2013	6/28/2013	10,000	(4)	\$0.01	\$22,307
	11/11/2013	11/11/2013	20,000	(2)	\$0.01	\$30,816

1. All grants were approved by the Compensation Committee.

2. Represents grant of stock options under our 2005 Stock Option Plan. Options represent the right to purchase shares of common stock at the price per share indicated in the table. Options were fully vested at the date of grant and expire on November 11, 2023.

3. Represents grant of stock options under our 2011 Incentive Equity Plan. Options represent the right to purchase shares of common stock at the price per share indicated in the table. Options were fully vested at the date of grant and expire on December 31, 2023.

4. Represents grant of stock options under our 2005 Stock Option Plan. Options represent the right to purchase shares of common stock at the price per share indicated in the table. Options were fully vested at the date of grant and expire on June 28, 2023.

## Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year End –December 2013

The following table sets forth certain information with respect to restricted stock and stock options held by our Named Executive Officers as of December 31, 2013.

Name	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Exercisable	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Unexercisable	Equity Incentive Plan Awards:		Option Exercise Price (\$)	Option Expiration Date
			Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Unearned			
John Brown	30,000		--		\$ 0.01	01/31/2020

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	30,000	--	\$ 2.50	12/31/2014
	300,000	--	\$ 2.61	12/04/2021
Victor G. Carrillo	15,000	--	\$ 4.55	01/26/2016
	10,000	--	\$ 2.50	12/31/2014
	200,000	--	\$ 2.61	12/04/2021
	31,250	18,750	\$ 1.70	12/20/2022
	25,000	--	\$ 0.01	11/11/2023
	25,000	--	\$ 0.01	12/31/2023
Ilan Sheena	12,000	--	\$ 7.15	12/31/2014
	30,000	--	\$ 2.50	12/31/2014
	100,000	--	\$ 2.61	12/04/2021
	21,875	13,125	\$ 1.70	12/20/2022

## Option Exercises and Stock Vested in Fiscal 2013

The following table provides information about options exercised by the Named Executive Officers during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013:

Name	Option Awards	Value Realized on Exercise (1) (\$)
	Number of Shares Acquired on Exercise (#)	
John Brown	-	-
Victor G. Carrillo	-	-
Ilan Sheena	30,000	\$ 50,800

(1) Represents the amounts realized based on the difference between the market price of our stock on the date of exercise and the exercise price.

## Employment Agreements

John Brown. Mr. Brown has continuously served as Chairman of the Board since the Company's establishment in April of 2000, but was appointed Executive Chairman in January 2010. On January 21, 2010, the Company and Mr. Brown, the Chairman of the Company's board of directors, entered into an Employment Agreement (the "Chairman Agreement") covering Mr. Brown's service as the Executive Chairman of the Company's Board of Directors.

The Chairman Agreement had an initial term that extended through December 31, 2012 and then automatically renewed for an additional two year term through December 31, 2014. Thereafter, the agreement provides that it is to be renewed automatically for successive two year terms unless either party shall advise the other 90 days before expiration of the initial or renewed term of its intention to not renew the agreement beyond its then scheduled expiration date. Under the agreement, Mr. Brown is paid an annual salary of \$207,000, payable monthly. Mr. Brown can terminate the employment agreement and the relationship thereunder at any time upon 60 business days' notice. If the Company were not to renew the term of the agreement or were to terminate the agreement during any renewal term, for any reason other than "Just Cause" (as defined the Agreement), then the Company is to pay to Mr. Brown an amount equal to the base salary, then payable to him for a period of twelve months as if the Chairman Agreement had not been so terminated or had been renewed. Mr. Brown may also terminate the agreement for "Good Reason" (as defined in the Agreement), whereupon he will be entitled to the same benefits as if the Company had terminated the agreement for any reason other than Just Cause. The Chairman Agreement provides for customary protections of the Company's confidential information and intellectual property.

Mr. Brown was also appointed as Interim Chief Executive Officer on October 18, 2012, but continued under the existing Employment Agreement through December 31, 2013.

Effective January 1, 2014, Mr. Brown was appointed as the Chief Executive Officer and to continue as the Executive Chairman under a new Employment Agreement for an initial term until December 31, 2016 and renewable for successive two year terms unless the Company or Mr. Brown terminates in writing more than 90 days prior to the termination of the initial term or any renewal term. Under the agreement, Mr. Brown is paid an annual salary of \$231,000, payable monthly. Mr. Brown will receive an annual bonus of \$30,000. Mr. Brown can terminate the Employment Agreement and the relationship thereunder at any time upon 60 business days' notice. If the Company were not to renew the term of the agreement or were to terminate the agreement during any renewal term, for any reason other than "Just Cause" (as defined the Agreement), then the Company is to pay to Mr. Brown an amount equal to the base salary, then payable to him for a period of twelve months as if the Agreement had not been so terminated or had been renewed. Mr. Brown may also terminate the agreement for "Good Reason" (as defined in the Agreement), whereupon he will be entitled to the same benefits as if the Company had terminated the agreement for any reason other than Just Cause. The Employment Agreement provides for customary protections of the Company's confidential information and intellectual property.

Victor G. Carrillo. Mr. Carrillo was appointed a director in September 2010, Executive Vice President in January 2011 and President and Chief Operating Officer in October 2011. On March 19, 2012, the Company and Mr. Carrillo entered into an amended and restated employment agreement. Under the agreement, Mr. Carrillo continues to be paid an annual salary of \$250,000, subject to annual review and adjustments. By its terms, the agreement provides for an initial term ending December 31, 2013. After expiration of the initial term, the agreement automatically renews for two successive one year periods, terminated by either party upon notice to the other, given not less than 30 days prior to the expiration of the then-current term. The amended and restated agreement replaces the employment agreement between Mr. Carrillo and the Company which entered into as of January 2011 upon his appointment as Executive Vice President.

Either the Company or Mr. Carrillo can terminate the employment agreement and the relationship thereunder at any time upon notice. The employment agreement has been renewed for another one year period. If the Company were to terminate the agreement during a renewal term for any reason other than "Just Cause" (as defined in the employment agreement), then Mr. Carrillo is entitled to six month's salary, as well as all benefits earned and accrued through such date. The employment agreement provides for customary protections of the Company's confidential information and intellectual property.

Ilan Sheena. Mr. Sheena was appointed Chief Financial Officer in March 2011. Mr. Sheena has been Vice President (Finance) of the Company's Israeli Branch since November 2009. On May 8, 2011, the Company and Ilan Sheena entered into a restated employment agreement providing for the employment (the "Sheena Employment Agreement") of Mr. Sheena as the Company's Chief Financial Officer. The Sheena Employment Agreement had an initial period through December 31, 2011 and thereafter renewed for an additional one year term until replaced by the Amended Sheena Employment Agreement as set forth below. Under the Sheena Employment Agreement, Mr. Sheena was paid an annual salary of the current New Israeli Shekel equivalent of \$144,000, payable monthly; which was increased, effective August 1, 2011, to the New Israeli Shekel equivalent of \$180,000 per annum. The Company also provided to Mr. Sheena under the Sheena Employment Agreement the following: (i) Manager's Insurance under Israeli law for the benefit of Mr. Sheena pursuant to which the Company contributes amounts equal to (a) 13-1/3 percent (and Mr. Sheena contributes an additional 5%) of each monthly salary payment, and (b) 7.5 % of Mr. Sheena's salary (with Mr. Sheena contributing an additional 2.5%) to an education fund, a form of deferred compensation program established under Israeli law.





On April 29, 2012, we entered into the Third Amended and Restated Employment Agreement (the “Amended Sheena Employment Agreement”) with Mr. Sheena, replacing in its entirety the Sheena Employment Agreement. Under the Amended Sheena Employment Agreement, Mr. Sheena is paid a monthly gross salary denominated in New Israeli Shekels (NIS) of NIS 56,400. Under the Sheena Employment Agreement previously in effect, Mr. Sheena was paid a monthly salary of \$15,000 payable in NIS at a pre-determined exchange rate. The effect of the modification of Mr. Sheena’s monthly salary is to prevent the recurrence to Mr. Sheena of losses resulting from fluctuating exchange rates associated with the payment of his monthly salary. Additionally, to compensate for previous deemed foreign exchange and timing losses, Mr. Sheena was paid a signing bonus of NIS 75,000 (which is equivalent to approximately \$20,000 at the rate of Exchange in effect on April 25, 2012) upon signing. We continue to provide Mr. Sheena with other benefits described above under the Amended Sheena Employment Agreement.

Mr. Sheena can terminate the Amended Sheena Employment Agreement and the relationship thereunder at any time upon 60 business days' notice. If the Company terminates the Amended Sheena Employment Agreement for any reason other than "Cause" (as defined the employment agreement), Mr. Sheena will be entitled to severance pay to which he is entitled under Israeli law (approximately one month’s base salary for each year worked) and three month’s salary, as well as all benefits earned and accrued through such date. The Amended Sheena Employment Agreement also provides that Mr. Sheena be awarded under the Plans at the end of each calendar quarter beginning with the quarter ended June 30, 2012, fully vested options at a per share exercise price of \$0.01 to purchase 2,500 shares the Company’s Common Stock. All options granted pursuant thereto shall be exercisable until December 4, 2021. The Amended Sheena Employment Agreement provides for customary protections of the Company's confidential information and intellectual property.

#### Potential Payments upon Change of Control or Termination following a Change of Control

Our employment agreements with our Named Executive Officers provide incremental compensation in the event of termination, as described herein. Generally, we currently do not provide any severance specifically upon a change in control nor do we provide for accelerated vesting upon change in control. Termination of employment also impacts outstanding stock options.

Due to the factors that may affect the amount of any benefits provided upon the events described below, any actual amounts paid or payable may be different than those shown in this table. Factors that could affect these amounts include the basis for the termination, the date the termination event occurs, the base salary of an executive on the date of termination of employment and the price of our Common Stock when the termination event occurs.

The following table sets forth the compensation that would have been received by each of the Company’s executive officers had they been terminated as of December 31, 2013.

Name	Salary Continuation (1)	Bonus	Benefit Payments (2)	Accrued Vacation Pay	Total Value
John Brown	635,250	-	-	20,435	655,685
Victor G. Carrillo	125,000	-	-	19,231	144,231
Ilan Sheena	45,000	-	6,683	23,013	74,696

1. Represents, for Mr. Brown, 33 months of 2014 base salary; for Mr. Carrillo, six months of 2013 base salary; and for Mr. Sheena, an amount representing three months of 2013 base salary.

2. In the case of Mr. Sheena, represents amounts that, by law, are required additions to his severance fund.

## COMPENSATION OF DIRECTORS

Our non-employee director compensation program in 2013 consisted of two principal elements: (1) board fees (\$1,500 per month) and, if relevant, committee chairmanship fees (\$1,000 per month) and (2) grants of stock options.

Pursuant to the monthly board fees described above, non-employee directors received an annual payment of \$18,000 in 2013 and each chairman or co-chairman of a committee received an additional \$12,000 in annual payments. We also reimburse directors for travel, lodging and related expenses they incur in attending Board and committee meetings.

The following table summarizes compensation paid to our non-management directors during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013.

Name	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash	Stock Awards	Option Awards (1)	All Other Compensation	Total
Forrest A. Garb	29,000	-	7,704(2 )	-	36,704
Paul Oroian	36,000	-	7,704(2 )	172	43,876
William H. Avery (3)(4)	6,000	-	31,900(2 )	123,954	161,854
Yehezkel Druckman	29,500	-	7,704(2 )	52,539	89,743
Glen Perry (4)	9,000	-	35,512(2 )	82,500	127,012
Justin W. Furnace	38,000	-	7,704(2)(4)	-	45,704
Gene Scammahorn	18,000	-	7,704(2)(4)	-	25,704
Kent S. Siegel (4)	24,000	-	26,803(2 )	654	51,457
Robert Render (5)	18,000	-	7,704	849	26,553
Julian Taylor, Former Director (6)	14,500	-	-	8,491	22,991

1. In accordance with SEC rules, the amounts in this column reflect the fair value on the grant date of option awards granted during the indicated year, calculated in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718. Stock options were valued using the Black-Scholes model. The grant-date fair value does not necessarily reflect the value of shares actually received or which may be received in the future with respect to these awards. The grant-date fair value of the stock options in this column is a non-cash expense Zion that reflects the fair value of the stock options on the grant date and therefore does not affect our cash balances. The fair value of the stock options will likely vary from the actual value the holder receives because the actual value depends on the number of options exercised and the market price of our Common Stock on the date of exercise. For a discussion of the assumptions made in the valuation of the stock options, see Note 6F to the Company's financial statements included in its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013.



2. The details relating to these grants are as follows: On November 11, 2013, we granted to each non-employee director options to purchase 5,000 shares of our Common Stock under our 2005 Stock Award Plan at a per share exercise price of \$0.01. The options were fully vested on the date of grant and expire on November 11, 2023.

3. Mr. Avery joined the Board on September 1, 2013.

4. In accordance with our established practice for persons joining the Board, the Company issued, under our 2011 Non-Employee Directors Stock Option Plan, (i) on January 9, 2013 to Mr. Siegel options to purchase 25,000 shares of our Common Stock at a per share exercise price of \$1.73, which options were vested upon issuance and continue to be exercisable through January 9, 2019 (ii) on July 10, 2013 to Mr. Perry options to purchase 25,000 shares of our common stock at a per share exercise price of \$2.28, which options were vested upon issuance and continue to be exercisable through July 10, 2019 and (iii) on September 3, 2013 to Mr. Avery options to purchase 25,000 shares of our common stock at a per share exercise price of \$1.96, which options were vested upon issuance and continue to be exercisable through September 3, 2019

5. Mr. Render passed away on January 26, 2014.

6. Mr. Taylor resigned from the Board on June 30, 2013.

#### INFORMATION RELATING TO AN EXECUTIVE OFFICER WHO IS NOT A DIRECTOR NOMINEE

Below is certain information relating to the sole executive officer of the Company who is not also a member of the Board of Directors or a director nominee:

Ilan Sheena, age 54, was appointed Chief Financial Officer in March 2011. Mr. Sheena has been Vice President (Finance) of the Company's Israeli Branch since November 2009. Mr. Sheena is an accounting professional with broad local and international experience. He has a degree in Accounting and Economics from Tel Aviv University and is a member of the Institute of Certified Public Accountants in Israel. From 1985 to 1988 he worked for Somekh Chaikin (KPMG) in Israel where he specialized in both auditing and taxation, primarily for hi-tech and life science companies. From 1988 to 1989 he worked in Sydney, Australia for Horwath & Horwath chartered accountants. From 1989 to 1993, he worked in Sydney, Australia for Alcatel Australia, the French telecommunications equipment manufacturer, as a financial accountant, where he specialized in financial reporting as well as project accounting. Returning to Israel in 1993, he became the Financial Controller of Arel Communications, a high-tech start-up that progressed to a NASDAQ listing. Between 1995 and 1996, he was the Chief Financial Officer of RCI Israel, a subsidiary of a leading U.S. based leisure industry company. Between 1996 and 1998, he worked for Bezeq International, the Israeli telecommunications company, as its Financial Controller and Finance Manager. Between 1998 and 2000, Mr. Sheena worked at Verint Systems, a key subsidiary of the Comverse Group (a Telco software company) as its Finance Manager and Financial Controller. Between December 2000 and December 2008, he was employed by Portview Communications Partners L.P., a venture capital fund (with investors such as JP Morgan, Siemens, EDF, AXA and Schlumberger), as its Chief Financial Officer (December 2000 - January 2007) and as its Advisor (January 2007 - December 2008); Mr. Sheena also was a member of the venture capital fund's general partner.

#### Employment Agreements

We have entered into employment agreements with Messrs. Brown, Carrillo and Sheena. See “Executive Compensation — Employment Agreements” for additional information.



## Policy for Approval of Related Party Transactions

Our Audit Committee Charter provides that our Audit Committee shall review for potential conflict of interest situations on an ongoing basis and shall approve all "related party transactions" required to be disclosed under SEC regulations or otherwise subject to approval by an independent body of our Board under the requirements of the NASDAQ. Except as set forth above, we do not have a written approval policy for transactions between the Company and our executive officers and directors, but these transactions are subject to the limitations on conflicts of interest and related-party transactions found in our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics (the "Code"). Under the Code, executive officers and directors endeavor to avoid any actual, potential or apparent conflict of interest between their personal and professional relationships. Any proposed related transactions, however, may be approved in accordance with both applicable law and applicable NASDAQ rules.

## EQUITY COMPENSATION PLAN INFORMATION

The following table sets forth certain information with respect to securities authorized for issuance under equity compensation plans as of December 31, 2013.

Plan Category	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights (#) (a)	Weighted-average price of outstanding options, warrants and rights (b)	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a)) (c)
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders:			
Stock Options	2,399,250	\$2.24	1,159,443
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders:			
	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,399,250</b>	<b>\$2.24</b>	<b>1,159,443</b>

## Long-Term Incentive Plan

At our 2002 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, the stockholders approved the establishment of a long-term key employee incentive plan, which may be structured as an employees' royalty pool, to be funded by the equivalent of a 1.5% overriding royalty interest. The Company may initiate the establishment of a long-term management incentive plan for key employees whereby a 1.5% overriding royalty or equivalent interest in the Asher-Menashe License, Joseph License, Jordan Valley License and such other oil and gas exploration and development rights as may in the future be acquired by the Company would be assigned to key employees. As the plan has not been established as of December 31, 2013, the Company did not have any outstanding obligation in respect of the plan.





## SECTION 16(a) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), requires officers and directors of the Company and persons who beneficially own more than ten percent (10%) of the Common Stock outstanding to file initial statements of beneficial ownership of Common Stock (Form 3) and statements of changes in beneficial ownership of Common Stock (Forms 4 or 5) with the SEC. Officers, directors and such greater than 10% stockholders are required by SEC regulation to furnish the Company with copies of all such forms they file.

Based upon a review of the filings furnished to the Company pursuant to Rule 16a-3(e) promulgated under the Exchange Act and on representations from its executive officers and directors and persons who beneficially own more than 10% of the Common Stock, except as otherwise specified below, all filing requirements of Section 16 (a) of the Exchange Act, were complied with in a timely manner during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013, except the following:

Name	Form Type	Transaction Date	Filing Date	Reason
Glen Perry	Form 3	7/1/2013	7/18/2013	Initial holdings reported upon completion of director's documentation
	Form 4	7/10/2013	7/18/2013	25,000 stock options granted upon completion of director's documentation
	Form 4	11/11/2013	12/23/2013	20,000 stock options granted - internal misunderstanding of need to file
Bill Avery	Form 3	9/1/2013	9/10/2013	Initial holdings reported upon completion of director's documentation
	Form 4	9/3/2013	9/10/2013	25,000 stock options granted upon completion of director's documentation
	Form 4	11/11/2013	12/2/2013	20,000 stock options granted - internal misunderstanding of need to file
Yehezkel Druckman	Form 4	11/11/2013	11/27/2013	5,000 stock options granted - internal misunderstanding of need to file
		12/9/2013	12/13/2013	5,000 stock options exercised - important business issues took priority
Justin W. Furnace	Form 4	11/11/2013	11/27/2013	5,000 stock options granted - internal misunderstanding of need to file
		11/20/2013	11/27/2013	5,000 stock options exercised upon completion of director's documentation
Victor G. Carrillo	Form 4	11/11/2013	11/27/2013	25,000 stock options granted - internal misunderstanding of need to file
Ilan Sheena	Form 4	11/11/2013	11/27/2013	20,000 stock options granted - internal misunderstanding of need to file
Kent Siegel	Form 4	11/11/2013	11/27/2013	5,000 stock options granted - internal misunderstanding of need to file

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Gene Scammahorn	Form 4	11/11/2013	11/27/2013	5,000 stock options granted - internal misunderstanding of need to file
Paul Oroian	Form 4	11/11/2013	11/27/2013	5,000 stock options granted - internal misunderstanding of need to file
Forrest Garb	Form 4	11/11/2013	11/27/2013	5,000 stock options granted - internal misunderstanding of need to file
Robert Render	Form 4	8/8/2012	4/23/2013	10,000 warrants exercised held by wife; director did not communicate transaction in a timely manner
		11/11/2013	11/27/2013	5,000 stock options granted - internal misunderstanding of need to file

## PROPOSAL NO. 1

## ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Our Board currently consists of eleven directors. Our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation classifies the Board into three classes, each having a staggered term expiring at successive annual meetings. Four Class III directors are to be elected at the Annual Meeting to serve a three year term expiring at the 2017 Annual Meeting of Stockholder (and until their successors shall be elected and shall qualify). The term of our Class I directors, John Brown, Forrest A. Garb, Kent Siegel and Glen Perry, shall expire at the 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders. The term of our Class II directors, Justin W. Furnace, Gene Scammahorn, and Martin M. van Brauman, shall expire at the 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

The Board has nominated the persons named in the table below for election as Class III directors. All such persons are presently directors of the Company, and each has consented to being named as a nominee for election as a Class III director and has agreed to serve if elected. Unless otherwise specified in the accompanying proxy, the shares voted pursuant to it will be voted for the persons named below as nominees for election as Class III directors. If, for any reason, at the time of the election, any of the nominees should be unable or unwilling to accept election, such proxy will be voted for the election, in such nominee's place, of a substitute nominee recommended by the Board to the extent that such substitute nominee exists. However, the Board has no reason to believe that any nominee will be unable or unwilling to serve as a director.

The four nominees receiving the highest number of affirmative votes of shares present or represented by proxy and entitled to vote for them shall be elected as directors.

Name of Nominee	Principal Occupation	Age	Year Became a Director
Victor G. Carrillo	President/COO/Director	49	2010
Paul Oroian	Director	61	2003
Yehezkel Druckman	Director	75	2005
William H. Avery	General Counsel/Director	66	2013

The following describes at least the last five years of business experience of the directors standing for re-election. The descriptions include any other directorships at public companies held during the past five years by these directors. No family relationship exists between any director and executive officer of the Company.

Victor G. Carrillo, age 49, was appointed a director in September 2010 and appointed Executive Vice President in January 2011. On October 18, 2011, he was appointed as our President and Chief Operating Officer. Mr. Carrillo currently serves as a director of Magnum Hunter Resources Corporation; an oil and gas company engaged in the acquisition, development and production of unconventional oil and gas resource plays in the United States and Canada. Mr. Carrillo is a petroleum geologist and geophysicist, attorney, former City Councilman and former County Judge. From February 2003 to January 2011, Mr. Carrillo served as a commissioner of the Railroad Commission of Texas (the State of Texas Board with regulatory jurisdiction over oil and gas exploration and production), having served as chairman of the three-member statewide elected board twice. Mr. Carrillo holds a law degree from the University of Houston Law Center, a Master of Science degree in geology from Baylor University, and a Bachelor of Science degree in geology from Hardin-Simmons University. Mr. Carrillo also received an honorary doctorate degree from Hardin-Simmons University in May 2006. Mr. Carrillo's background in petroleum geology and geophysics and

regulatory experience as Chairman of the Railroad Commission of Texas furnish to our Board access to a greater understanding of both petroleum science and regulatory issues.

Paul Oroian, age 61, was appointed a director in November 2003. He has served as president and managing partner of Oroian, Guest and Little, P.C., a certified public accounting and consulting firm based in San Antonio, Texas, since its founding in 1983. From 1980-1983, Mr. Oroian was a tax senior in the San Antonio offices of Arthur Young and Company. Mr. Oroian holds a Bachelors of Science – Business Administration from Bryant College. He has served as a board member of Technology Oversight Committee and the IRS Regional Liaison Committee of the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants and was vice president and a director of the San Antonio CPA Society between 1992 and 1998. Mr. Oroian’s extensive experience as a certified public accountant was instrumental in his appointment to the Audit Committee of our Board and provides our Board with a critical accounting perspective. Mr. Oroian also serves as the Lead Director.

Dr. Yehezkel “Charlie” Druckman, age 75, was appointed a director of Zion Oil in November 2005. Dr. Druckman was Petroleum Commissioner for the State of Israel from 1995 until his retirement in 2004, where he supervised the licensing of petroleum rights both onshore and offshore Israel. These efforts led to the discovery of 1.5 trillion cubic feet of gas in the Israeli offshore Mari B and other smaller fields during 1999-2000. Since 1965, he has been a member of the professional staff of the Geological Survey of Israel, where he headed the Mapping, Stratigraphy and Oil Division during 1982-1985 and 1991-1994. He was also affiliated with the Louisiana State University at Baton Rouge as Research Associate in Geology during 1978-1980 and 1989-1990. He was awarded in 1974 the Israel Geological Society’s Perez Grader award. He is an active member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists and the Geological Society of Israel (where he served as president in 1982 and for a number of years on the Society's editorial board). He also served as member of the Israeli National Petroleum Commission and Board of Directors of Oil Exploration (Investments) Ltd., an Israeli government company. Dr. Druckman graduated from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem where he was awarded BSc, MSc and PhD degrees in geology. Dr. Druckman’s academic credentials as a geologist, his experience as the Petroleum Commissioner for the State of Israel for nearly a decade and his vast knowledge and expertise in the geological mapping of the State of Israel for petroleum exploration purposes provide us with a critical resource in our ongoing oil and gas exploration efforts in Israel as well as a liaison to the Israeli regulatory authorities with whom we are in ongoing contact with respect to the maintenance of our license and other oil and gas exploration rights.

William H. Avery, age 66, was appointed to the Board as a non-employee director, effective September 1, 2013. From 2001 to 2003, Mr. Avery worked on a broad variety of administrative, financial and legal matters for the Company. He served as Vice President of Finance and Treasurer commencing 2003 until 2007. He worked full time as Executive Vice President and Treasurer and as a director commencing in 2007 with responsibility for administration, finance and legal until 2010. From December 2012 to current, he has been retained as General Counsel on a part time basis under an independent consulting contract. Mr. Avery has a BBA in Finance and Economics from Southern Methodist University and a Juris Doctor from Duke University.

There are no family relationships between any of the above directors.

#### Information Relating to Continuing Directors who are not Standing for Re-election this Year

John M. Brown, age 74, is the founder of Zion Oil and has been a director and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Zion Oil since its organization in April 2000. Mr. Brown was appointed Executive Chairman in January 2010. Mr. Brown was also appointed as Interim Chief Executive Officer on October 18, 2012 and on January 1, 2014, Mr. Brown was appointed as the Chief Executive Officer and to continue as the Executive Chairman. Previously, he served as our Chief Executive Officer from April 2000 to September 2004 and as President from April 2000 to October 2001. Mr. Brown has extensive management, marketing and sales experience, having held senior management positions in two Fortune 100 companies - GTE Valeron, a subsidiary of GTE Corporation and a manufacturer of cutting tools, where he was employed from 1966-86 and served as the corporate director of purchasing, and Magnetek, Inc., a manufacturer of digital power supplies, systems and controls, where he was corporate director of procurement during 1988-89. Mr. Brown was a director and principal stockholder in M&B Concrete Construction, Inc. from 1996 to 2003 and is an officer and director of M&B Holding Inc. (a Nevada corporation) based in Dallas, Texas, the sole shareholder of M&B General Contracting Inc. (a Delaware corporation). These companies primarily provide cement walls and floors for industrial buildings, office buildings and home developers. Prior to founding the Company, Mr. Brown had been actively pursuing a license for oil and gas exploration in Israel for many years. His efforts led to our obtaining, in May 2000, the Ma'anit License in the Joseph Project, the precursor to the Joseph License. Mr. Brown holds a BBA degree from Fullerton College. Mr. Brown’s senior management experience in two Fortune 500 companies as well as his extensive experience in the oil and gas sector in the State of Israel provide with him with the insight and vision needed to serve as chairman of our Board of Directors.



Justin W. Furnace, age 36, was appointed a director in April 2012. Mr. Furnace is the Corporate Manager of External Affairs for Hilcorp Energy Company in Houston, Texas. Previously, from May of 2010 to September 2012, he was the President of the Texas Independent Producers & Royalty Owners Association (TIPRO), a trade association representing the interests of more than 2,300 independent oil and natural gas producers and royalty owners throughout Texas. As TIPRO President, Mr. Furnace was responsible for overseeing the association's governmental affairs in Texas and Washington D.C. and representing the interests of the association membership before various regulatory bodies, among other things. Prior thereto, from June 2007 to May 2010, Mr. Furnace served as chief of staff and legal counsel to then Chairman Victor Carrillo of the Texas Railroad Commission. He was the Chairman's top policy advisor, in charge of evaluating, assessing and implementing all legal, technical and legislative strategies. Prior to his tenure at the Railroad Commission, from September 2004 to December 2006, he practiced law at the Beaumont office of Mehaffy Webber as an associate in the firm's business and litigation departments. While at the firm, he focused on both transactions and litigation relating to oil and gas, real estate and corporate matters. A graduate of Hardin-Simmons University, Mr. Furnace currently serves on its Board of Development. He later received his Doctorate of Jurisprudence from Texas Tech University School of Law. Mr. Furnace's background in commercial oil and gas law and his regulatory experience make him a valuable objective resource for our company on these matters.

Forrest A. Garb, age 84, was appointed a director of Zion Oil in November 2005. Mr. Garb is a petroleum engineer who has provided independent consulting services for more than 45 years. His consulting career began with H.J. Gruy and Associates, Inc. and its successors, where he served as a vice president for four years, executive vice-president for ten years, and president for fifteen years, until leaving in 1986, following Gruy's merger into a public company. In his capacity as president, Mr. Garb contracted, performed and supervised over 12,500 projects ranging from simple evaluations to sophisticated reservoir simulations. In 1988, Mr. Garb founded Forrest A. Garb & Associates, Inc., a privately-owned petroleum consulting firm, where he served as chairman and chief executive officer until his retirement in 2003 and sale of his interests in the company to its key employees. Prior to entering into consulting, Mr. Garb was educated in petroleum engineering at Texas A&M University (BSc and Professional MSc) and received his early training at Socony Mobil Oil Company in Kansas, Texas, Louisiana and Venezuela. Mr. Garb is a member of the Society of Petroleum Engineers and is a past President of the Society of Petroleum Evaluation Engineers. He is a member of the Association of Computing Machinery, the American Arbitration Association, the Petroleum Engineers Club of Dallas, the Dallas Geological Society, and is a member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists. He is a charter member of The American Institute of Minerals Appraisers. He is a registered professional engineer in the state of Texas. Mr. Garb's petroleum engineering background and vast experience in the petroleum industry spanning over 45 years provide our Board with a valuable resource in assessing oil and gas prospects.

Gene Scammahorn, age 57, was appointed a director in October 2012. Until recently, Mr. Scammahorn was an Internal Audit Director at Xerox Business Services, LLC, a position that he held since 2001. In this position, he was primarily responsible for consulting and advising operating management in preparations for over 100 external SSAE (formerly SAS 70) audits of domestic and global business process outsourcing contracts. Mr. Scammahorn has over 30 years of business experience, including two big four public accounting firms, major oil and gas companies and banking and consulting. He has participated in audit committee presentations and meetings for major clients, the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas and Xerox Business Services, LLC. He received a BS in Accounting in 1973 from the University of Tulsa and is a Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Financial Planner. Mr. Scammahorn's extensive experience as a certified public accountant was instrumental in his appointment to the Audit Committee of our Board and provides our Board with a critical accounting perspective.

Glen Perry, age 71, was re-appointed to the Board of Directors in July 2013. He previously served on our Board from January 2004 to December 2009 when he retired as Zion's President and Chief Operating Officer. Since obtaining a Master's Degree in Petroleum Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin in 1972, Mr. Perry has accumulated over 40 years of experience in engineering and management in the oil and gas industry. From initial employment as a drilling engineer with Humble Oil and Refining (now Exxon-Mobil) until 1990 he held positions of increasing responsibility in three US domestic companies culminating as Senior VP for Operations, Engineering and Marketing with a highly successful independent oil company in Houston (Prairie Producing). From 1993 to 1998, he worked in the Commonwealth of Independent States in project acquisition and management before coming to Israel in 1998. During the last 15 years in Israel, he has consulted for or been employed as an officer by Delek Drilling, Ginko, Zion Oil & Gas, Adira, AGR and Genie Energy. Mr. Perry has both US and Israeli citizenship. He founded GHP Consulting and is currently a consultant to Genie Energy as project manager for the exploration of license #397/Ness and engineering/operations consultant to Zion Oil & Gas. In addition, he is teaching two courses in the Technion's Master's program in Petroleum Engineering in basic drilling operations and deep water operations.

Martin M. van Brauman, age 66, was appointed to the Board effective April 1, 2014 and since January 1, 2012 has been the Corporate Secretary and Treasurer and since June 1, 2013 has been a Senior Vice President. From July 1, 2007 to January 31, 2009, he served as the Chief Financial Officer, Corporate Secretary, Senior Vice President and Board director. From February 1, 2009 to July 1, 2009, he served as the Chief Legal Officer. He is Board Certified in Tax Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization and has been in private legal practice in Dallas specializing in international and corporate tax and business corporate law. Previously, he spent 12 years as a Senior Attorney (International Specialist and Petroleum Industry Specialist) with the Office of Chief Counsel, IRS, followed by three years as a tax consultant with Deloitte & Touche and Grant Thornton. He has published on subjects related to taxation of international oil and gas ventures. Mr. van Brauman holds a B.E. degree from Vanderbilt University, a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from St. Mary's University and an M.B.A. (Beta Gamma Sigma) and LL.M. (Tax Law) from Southern Methodist University. He has been an Adjunct Professor at Southern Methodist University, School of Law, LL.M. Tax Program and at the University of Texas at Dallas, Masters of Accounting Program.

Kent S. Siegel, age 58, was appointed a director in December 2012 and assumed his office as of January 1, 2013. Mr. Siegel previously served as a director on the Company's Board from November 2003 through March 31, 2011 and as the Company's Chief Operating Officer from July 9, 2010 through March 31, 2011, the date of his resignation. Mr. Siegel has served as president and chief operating officer of Kent S. Siegel, P.C. since 1984. Kent S. Siegel, P.C. is a firm of certified public accountants and attorneys at law based in West Bloomfield, Michigan, at which Mr. Siegel practices as a tax and bankruptcy attorney and CPA. Mr. Siegel holds a Bachelor of Business Administration from Michigan State University School of Business, a Juris Doctor from Wayne State University School of Law and a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Lawrence Technological University School of Engineering. Mr. Siegel's extensive experience as a certified public accountant and in tax law provides our Board with a critical accounting and tax law perspective. Mr. Siegel is a valuable member of the Audit Committee of our Board.

There are no family relationships between any of the above directors.



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### BOARD MEETINGS

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013, the Board met once and acted by unanimous consent on 19 occasions. Each of the directors attended at least 75% of the aggregate number of meetings of the Board and of any committees of the Board on which they served.

The Board does not have a formal policy with respect to Board members' attendance at annual stockholder meetings, although it encourages directors to attend such meetings. All of the directors serving at the time of the 2013 annual meeting attended the Company's 2013 annual meeting held in Dallas, Texas on June 12, 2013.

### CODE OF ETHICS

We have adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that applies to our directors, officers and all employees. The code has been posted on our web site at [www.zionoil.com/investor-center/corporate-governance](http://www.zionoil.com/investor-center/corporate-governance), and may also be obtained free of charge by writing to Ethics Code, c/o Zion Oil & Gas, Inc., 6510 Abrams Rd., Suite 300, Dallas, Texas 75231. We intend to satisfy the disclosure requirement under Item 10 of Form 8-K regarding an amendment to, or waiver from, a provision of our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics by posting such information on our website, at the address and location specified above.

### BOARD LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE

The roles of CEO and Chairman are held by Mr. Brown. Mr. Brown has assumed the position of Chief Executive Officer and the Board believes that combining these positions provides the optimal leadership structure for the Company during this period. The CEO maintains primary management responsibility for the Company's day-to-day business operations and, as Chairman, is in the best position to ensure that key business issues and interests of the Company's stakeholders (stockholders, employees, communities and prospective investors) are communicated to the Board. In addition, Mr. Brown's experience as founder and continuing Chairman of the Company since its inception and qualifications, enable him to fulfill the responsibilities of both roles and effectively lead Zion Oil with a unified vision.

The Board believes that other elements of the Company's corporate structure ensure that independent directors can perform their role as independent fiduciaries in the Board's oversight of management and our business and minimize any potential conflict that may result from combining the roles of CEO and Chairman. In this regard, it shall be noted that Mr. Oroian serves as Lead Director.

### BOARD COMMITTEES

The Company's board of directors has established an audit committee, a compensation committee and a nominating and corporate governance committee, with each comprised of independent directors. Each committee operates under a charter that has been approved by our board of directors. All of the charters are publicly available on our website at [www.zionoil.com/investor-center/corporate-governance](http://www.zionoil.com/investor-center/corporate-governance). Copies of our committee charters are available, without charge, upon request in writing to Investor Relations Department.

#### Audit Committee

The Company's Audit Committee is currently comprised of Messrs. Oroian, Siegel and Scammahorn. Mr. Oroian was elected to serve as chairman. On February 14, 2014 Forrest Garb filled the Committee vacancy left by the death of

Robert Render until April 1, 2014 when Kent Siegel was appointed to fill the vacancy.

The principal function of the Audit Committee is to assist the Board in monitoring (i) the integrity of the financial statements of the Company, (ii) compliance by the Company with legal and regulatory requirements, (iii) the independent auditor's qualifications and independence, (iv) performance of the Company's independent auditors, (v) the business practices and ethical standards of the Company and (vi) related party transactions. The Audit Committee is also directly responsible for the appointment, compensation, retention and oversight of the work of the Company's independent auditors.

The Board has determined that each member of the Audit Committee is an “independent director” as defined by NASDAQ regulations and also meets the additional criteria for independence of Audit Committee members set forth in Rule 10A-3(b)(1) under the Exchange Act. In addition, the Board has determined that Mr. Oroian qualifies as an “audit committee financial expert” as defined by the SEC. Security holders should understand that this designation is a disclosure requirement of the SEC relating to Mr. Oroian’s experience and understanding with respect to certain accounting and auditing matters. The designation does not impose on Mr. Oroian any duties, obligations or liability that is greater than is generally imposed on him as a member of the Audit Committee and Board, and his designation as an Audit Committee financial expert pursuant to this SEC requirement does not affect the duties, obligations or liability of any other member of the Audit Committee or Board.

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013, the Audit Committee met five times.

#### Compensation Committee

The current members of our Compensation Committee are Messrs. Furnace, Garb and Siegel. Mr. Furnace was elected to serve as Chairman. All three current members of the Compensation Committee satisfy the SEC independence criteria and the NASDAQ independence criteria. On April 1, 2014, Mr. Siegel replaced Mr. Oroian. The Compensation Committee establishes our Company’s policies and administers our compensation program with respect to our executive officers. Based on periodic evaluation, the Compensation Committee also makes recommendations to the Board regarding director compensation and our Company’s employee benefits program. Pursuant to its charter, the functions and responsibilities of the Compensation Committee include:

- determining compensation for the Company’s executive officers;
- assisting in developing and reviewing the annual performance goals and objectives of our executive officers;
- assessing the adequacy and competitiveness of our executive compensation program;
- administering our incentive compensation program and other equity-based compensation plans;
- reviewing and recommending compensation for our non-employee directors; and
- reviewing and evaluating the adequacy of the Compensation Committee charter on an annual basis.

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013, the Compensation Committee met once and acted by unanimous consent on six occasions.

Our executive officers receive a compensation package consisting of base salary, long-term equity awards, and participation in benefit plans generally available to all of our employees including life, health, disability and dental insurance. We have chosen these elements of compensation to create a flexible package that reflects the long-term nature of our business. We also enter into employment agreements with our executive officers that provide for certain severance benefits upon termination of employment following a change of control of the Company.

In setting executive officer compensation levels, the Compensation Committee, which is comprised entirely of independent directors, is guided by the following considerations:

- recommendations from the Chief Executive Officer based on individual executive performance and appropriate benchmark data;
- ensuring compensation levels reflect the Company’s past performance and expectations of future performance;
- ensuring compensation levels are competitive with compensation generally being paid to executives we seek to recruit to ensure our ability to attract and retain experienced and well-qualified executives; and

ensuring a portion of executive officer compensation is paid in the form of equity-based incentives to closely link stockholder and executive interests.

The Compensation Committee periodically engages a consulting company to obtain market data and information on compensation trends regarding executive and director compensation.

## Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee

The current members of our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee are Messrs. Oroian, Furnace and Scammahorn. Mr. Furnace was elected to serve as Chairman. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is charged with selecting and recommending for the approval of the Board nominees to be submitted to the stockholders for election.

In addition, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee has adopted a formal written policy respecting the standards and qualifications to be used in identifying director nominees, including the consideration of director nominees presented by the Company's stockholders. A copy of the director nominee policy is available on our website at [www.zionoil.com/investor-center/corporate-governance](http://www.zionoil.com/investor-center/corporate-governance).

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee met once and acted by unanimous consent on two occasions.

While the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee does not have a formal policy with respect to diversity, the Board of Directors believes that it is essential that Board members represent diverse business backgrounds and experience and include individuals with a background in related fields and industries. In considering candidates for the Board of Directors, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee considers the entirety of each candidate's credentials in the context of these standards. We believe that the backgrounds and qualifications of our directors, considered as a group, should and do provide a composite mix of experience, knowledge and abilities that will allow the Board of Directors to fulfill its responsibilities.

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee will consider qualified director candidates recommended by stockholders in compliance with its formally adopted director nominee policy and subject to applicable inquiries. Proposals for consideration by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee of director nominees may be made by submitting the names and supporting information to: Justin Furnace, Chairman, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, Zion Oil & Gas, Inc., 6510 Abrams Road, Suite 300, Dallas, Texas 75231. A stockholder nomination must contain the following information about the nominee:

- Name;
- Age;
- Business and residence addresses;
- Principal occupation or employment;
- The number of shares of the Company's Common Stock and other Company securities held by the nominee;
- A resume of his or her business and educational background;
- The information that would be required under SEC rules in a proxy statement soliciting proxies for the election of such nominee as a director; and
- A signed consent of the nominee to serve as a director, if nominated and elected.

The nomination should also contain the following information concerning the nominating stockholder:

- Name
- Address
- The number of shares of the Company's Common Stock and other securities held by the nominating stockholder.
- The nature of the holdings – whether directly or beneficially (if beneficially, details of the legal holder and the nature of the beneficial interest should be provided); and
- Whether the nominating stockholder has any agreement or understanding of any type (written or oral) with any other stockholder concerning the voting of Company shares and, if so, the identity and address of the other parties to the agreement or understanding, the stockholdings of each of the other parties, and the nature of the agreement or understanding.

We have adopted a formal process for stockholders to communicate with the Board, which has been posted on our web site at [www.zionoil.com/investor-center/corporate-governance](http://www.zionoil.com/investor-center/corporate-governance). Stockholders may communicate with the Board of Directors by sending written communications to the Board of Directors, care of Mr. Paul Oroian, Lead Director, to:

Mr. Oroian, Lead Director  
Zion Oil & Gas, Inc.  
6510 Abrams Road, Suite 300  
Dallas, Texas 75231

The mailing envelope must contain a clear notation indicating that the enclosed letter is a "Stockholder-Board Communication" or "Stockholder-Director Communication." All such letters must identify the author as a stockholder and clearly state whether the intended recipients are all members of the Board of Directors or only certain specified individual directors. We will make copies of all such letters received and circulate them to the appropriate director or directors.

If no particular director is named, letters will be forwarded, depending on the subject matter, to the Lead Director. In general, Company personnel will not censor or edit such communications and any stockholder communication delivered to the Company for forwarding to the Board or specified Board member or members will be forwarded in accordance with the stockholder's instructions. However, we reserve the right not to forward to Board members any abusive, threatening or otherwise inappropriate materials.

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee may revise these procedures at any time. Until other procedures are developed and posted on our website, all communications to the Board of Directors should be mailed to the Board of Directors in accordance with the procedures described above.

Our board of directors may from time to time establish other committees.

#### Board's Role in Risk Oversight

Management is responsible for the day-to-day management of risks the Company faces, while the Board of Directors, as a whole and through its committees, has the ultimate responsibility for the oversight of risk management. Senior officers attend meetings of the Board, provide presentations on operations including significant risks, and are available to address any questions or concerns raised by the Board. Additionally, our three Board committees assist the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities in certain areas of risk. Pursuant to its charter, the Audit Committee coordinates the Board's oversight of the Company's internal control over financial reporting, disclosure controls and procedures and code of conduct. Management regularly reports to the Audit Committee on these areas. The Compensation Committee

assists the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities with respect to the management of risks arising from our compensation policies and programs. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee assists the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities with respect to the management of risks associated with Board organization, membership and structure, succession planning for our directors and corporate governance. When any of the committees receives a report related to material risk oversight, the Chairman of the relevant committee reports on the discussion to the full Board.

## REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Company's management has the primary responsibility for the financial statements and the reporting process, including the Company's system of internal controls and disclosure controls and procedures. An independent registered public accounting firm has been engaged to audit the Company's financial statements and express an opinion on the financial statements based on the audit. The Audit Committee oversees (i) the accounting and financial reporting processes of the Company and (ii) the audits of the financial statements of the Company on behalf of the Board.

The Audit Committee has met and held discussions with management and MaloneBailey LLP, the Company's independent registered public accounting firm. Management represented to the Audit Committee that the Company's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2013 were prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The Audit Committee discussed the financial statements with both management and the independent auditors. The Audit Committee also discussed with the independent auditors the matters required to be discussed by Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61, as amended (AICPA, Professional Standards, Vol. 1, AU section 380).

The Audit Committee discussed with the independent auditors the overall scope and plans for the audit. We met with the independent auditors, with and without management, to discuss the results of their examination, the evaluation of the Company's internal controls, and the overall quality of the Company's financial reporting.

The Audit Committee discussed with the independent auditors the auditor's independence from the Company and management, including the independent auditors written disclosures required by PCAOB Rule 3526 (File No. PCAOB-2008-03) (Independence Discussions With Audit Committees).

Based on the foregoing, the Audit Committee has recommended to the Board of Directors, and the Board approved, that the audited financial statements be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013, for filing with the SEC.

This report is submitted by the Chairman of the Audit Committee.

### AUDIT COMMITTEE

Paul Oroian  
Forrest Garb  
Gene Scammahorn

March 3, 2014

The information contained in this report shall not be deemed to be "soliciting material" or to be "filed" with the Securities and Exchange Commission, nor shall such information be incorporated by reference into any future filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, except to the extent that the Company specifically incorporates it by reference in such filing.



## DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE

Of the eleven current members of our Board of Directors, six (Messrs. Furnace, Garb, Oroian, Siegel, Perry and Scammahorn) meet the criteria of independence set by the NASDAQ Global Market for membership on the board of a NASDAQ listed company ("NASDAQ independence criteria"). Dr. Druckman met the independence criteria through March 18, 2013, until his appointment as our Vice President for Israel Exploration.

NASDAQ independence criteria provide, among other requirements, that an independent director: (i) cannot be and, over the past three years, cannot have been an officer or employee of the Company and cannot be an immediate family member of such person; (ii) cannot receive or, over the past three years, have an immediate family member who receives or received from the Company more than \$120,000 in any consecutive twelve month period for services other than as one of the Company's directors (or, with respect to an immediate family member, as a Company employee); (iii) cannot be affiliated, or be an immediate family member of a person affiliated with, any organization to which the Company made, or from which the Company received payments (other than those arising solely from investments in the Company's securities or payments under non-discretionary charitable contribution matching programs) that exceed five percent of the organization's consolidated gross revenues for that year, or \$200,000, whichever is more, in any of the most recent three fiscal years.

SEC independence criteria, which govern members of and candidates for service on the Audit Committee, provide that an "independent" director cannot be one of the Company's officers or be in a position, directly or indirectly, to control the Company's management or policies (other than in his position as a director). Neither can he or she be, or be affiliated with, a paid consultant or provider of services to the Company.

## BOARD RECOMMENDATION

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR THE PROPOSAL TO ELECT THE FOUR CLASS III DIRECTORS THAT HAVE BEEN NOMINATED TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

## PROPOSAL NO. 2

### RATIFICATION OF THE INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

MaloneBailey, LLP ("MaloneBailey"), an independent registered public accounting firm, was the auditor for the year ended December 31, 2013 and has been selected as the independent auditor for the year ending December 31, 2014. Although stockholder ratification is not required for the appointment of MaloneBailey, since the Audit Committee has the responsibility for appointing the Company's independent auditors, the appointment is being submitted for ratification with a view toward soliciting the stockholders' opinions, which the Audit Committee will take into consideration in the future.

It is expected that a representative of MaloneBailey will be available to respond to appropriate questions from stockholders present at the annual meeting.

Somekh Chaikin ("SC"), a member of KPMG International and an independent registered public accounting firm, was the Company's independent auditor for the year ended December 31, 2010. As disclosed in the Current Report on Form 8-K that we filed on August 4, 2011, on August 1, 2011, the Audit Committee was notified by SC that SC would have to resign as our independent registered public accounting firm following the filing of our quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the three months ending September 30, 2011, in accordance with the requirements of the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy ("Texas State Board"). SC's action was taken in light of an agreed cease-and-desist

order that SC entered into with the Texas State Board following an inquiry by the Texas State Board regarding SC's ability to provide attestation services for companies with principal executive offices in the State of Texas without being registered by the Texas State Board. SC informed the Company that, as a result of these developments, it could no longer provide auditing services to companies with principal executive offices in Texas. The Company's principal executive offices are located in Dallas, Texas.

On October 17, 2011, the Audit Committee engaged MaloneBailey as our independent registered public accounting firm.

Except as discussed in the next succeeding paragraph, the audit reports of SC on our financial statements and the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting for the 2010 and 2009 fiscal years did not contain an adverse opinion, or a disclaimer of opinion, or qualification or modification as to uncertainty, audit scope, or accounting principles.

SC's report on our financial statements and the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of and for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, contained a separate paragraph stating that "The accompanying financial statements have been prepared assuming that the Company will continue as a going concern. As discussed in Note 1 to the financial statements, the Company is in its development stage and has no operating revenue, limited capital resources and a loss from operations, all of which raise substantial doubt about its ability to continue as a going concern. Management's plans in regard to these matters are also described in Note 1. The financial statements do not include any adjustments that might result from the outcome of this uncertainty."

During the fiscal years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009 and subsequent thereto, there were no disagreements with SC on any matter of accounting principles or practices, financial statement disclosure, or auditing scope or procedure that, if not resolved to SC's satisfaction, would have caused SC to make reference in connection with their opinion to the subject matter of the disagreement, nor were there any "reportable events" (as that term is described in Item 304(a)(1)(v) of Regulation S-K).

#### Principal Accountant Fees and Services

The following table sets forth the fees for services provided by Malone Bailey and SC relating to the fiscal years ended December 31, 2013 and December 31, 2012.

	Fiscal Year 2013		Fiscal Year 2012	
	SC	Malone Bailey	SC	Malone Bailey
Audit Fees (1)	\$39,000	\$57,000	\$36,500	\$57,710
Audit-Related Fees (2)	--	\$8,000	\$--	\$4,800
Tax Fees (3)	\$11,250	--	\$9,000	--
All Other Fees	--	--	--	--
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$50,250</b>	<b>\$65,000</b>	<b>\$45,500</b>	<b>\$62,510</b>

(1) Audit Fees consist of fees for professional services rendered for the audit of our financial statements included in the Annual Report on Form 10-K, internal controls over financial reporting and the review of the interim financial statements included in the Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, and for the services that are normally provided in connection with regulatory filings or engagements.

(2) Audit Related Fees consist of assurance and related services that were reasonably related to the performance of the audit or review of the Company's financial statements. The fee for 2012 includes amounts paid associated with a rights offering completed in July 2011, as well as fees associated with foreign statutory audits and other similar related work.

- (3) Tax Fees consist of services that were related to the filing of tax returns and tax-related for our Israeli branch.

### Policy on Pre-Approval of Services

Our Audit Committee considers and pre-approves any audit and non-audit engagement or relationship between the Company and any independent accountant. The Audit Committee has delegated to the Chairman of the Audit Committee the authority to pre-approve all audit or non-audit services to be provided by an independent accountant if presented to the full Audit Committee at its next meeting. In accordance with these procedures, the engagement of MaloneBailey to conduct the audit of our 2013 financial statements was pre-approved by the Chairman of our Audit Committee and approved by the Audit Committee.

### BOARD RECOMMENDATION

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF MALONEBAILEY, LLP AS THE COMPANY'S INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014. PROXIES RECEIVED IN RESPONSE TO THIS SOLICITATION WILL BE VOTED FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF THE INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED IN THE PROXY.

### PROPOSAL NO. 3

#### ADVISORY VOTE ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The Board recognizes that executive compensation is an important matter for our stockholders. As described elsewhere in this Proxy Statement, the Compensation Committee is tasked with the implementation of our executive compensation philosophy.

In particular, the Compensation Committee strives to attract, retain and motivate exceptional executives, to reward past performance measured against established goals and provide incentives for future performance, and to align executives' long-term interests with the interests of our stockholders. To do this, the Compensation Committee uses a combination of short- and long-term incentive compensation to reward near-term excellent performance and to encourage executives' commitment to our long-range, strategic business goals. It is always the intention of the Compensation Committee that our executive officers be compensated competitively and consistently with our strategy, sound corporate governance principles, and stockholder interests and concerns.

We believe our compensation program is effective, appropriate and strongly aligned with the long-term interests of our stockholders and that the total compensation package provided to the Named Executive Officers (including potential payouts upon a termination or change of control) is reasonable and not excessive. As you consider this Proposal #3, we urge you to read the more detailed information about our compensation philosophy and objectives and to review the tabular disclosures regarding Named Executive Officer compensation together with the accompanying narrative disclosures in the "Executive Compensation Overview" section of this Proxy Statement.

The vote on this resolution is not intended to address any specific element of compensation; rather, the vote relates to the compensation of our Named Executive Officers as disclosed in this Proxy Statement in accordance with the SEC's compensation disclosure rules. The vote is advisory, which means that it is not binding on the Company or our Board or the Compensation Committee of our Board.

This proposal will be approved on an advisory basis if it receives the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares present or represented and entitled to vote either in person or by proxy. As noted earlier in this Proxy Statement, broker non-votes will not affect the outcome of this proposal, and abstentions will be equivalent to a vote against this proposal.

Accordingly, we ask our stockholders to vote on the following resolution at our Annual Meeting:

“RESOLVED, that the Company’s stockholders approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the Named Executive Officers, as disclosed in the Company’s Proxy Statement for the 2014 Annual Meeting of Stockholders pursuant to the compensation disclosure rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission, including the 2013 Summary Compensation Table and the other related tables and disclosure.”

**BOARD RECOMMENDATION**

**THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT THE STOCKHOLDERS VOTE “FOR” THE APPROVAL OF THE COMPENSATION OF OUR NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS, AS DISCLOSED IN THIS PROXY STATEMENT.**

PROPOSAL NO. 4

FREQUENCY OF THE ADVISORY VOTE ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The Company would also like to seek your input with regard to the frequency of future stockholder advisory votes with respect to our executive compensation programs. We are providing stockholders the option of selecting a frequency of one, two, or three years, or abstaining. The Board has determined that an advisory vote on executive compensation every three years is the best approach for the Company based upon a number of considerations, including the following:

- Our compensation program is designed to induce performance over a multi-year period. For example, as discussed in the Executive Compensation Overview, equity awards of options represent a significant part of the total compensation and of the long-term compensation for named executive officers;
- Our overall Company success is based upon planning and working towards multi-well, long-term exploration and drilling programs in Israel;
- A three-year vote cycle gives the Board sufficient time to thoughtfully consider the results of the advisory vote and to implement any desired changes to our executive compensation policies and procedures; and
- A three-year cycle will provide investors sufficient time to evaluate the effectiveness of our short- and long-term compensation strategies and the related business outcomes of the Company.

Although the vote is non-binding, our Board will take into account the outcome of the vote when making future decisions about the Company's executive compensation policies and procedures. The Company's stockholders also have the opportunity to provide additional feedback on important matters involving executive compensation even in years when advisory votes do not occur. For example, stockholders can communicate with the Board through our website at [www.zionoil.com/investor-center/corporate-governance](http://www.zionoil.com/investor-center/corporate-governance). Stockholders may communicate with the Board by sending written communications to the Board of Directors, care of Mr. Paul Oroian, Lead Director, Zion Oil & Gas, Inc., 6510 Abrams Road, Suite 300, Dallas, Texas 75231 (See page 28 for further instructions for written communications to the Board of Directors).

BOARD RECOMMENDATION

THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT THE STOCKHOLDERS SELECT "THREE YEARS" ON THE PROPOSAL RECOMMENDING THE FREQUENCY OF ADVISORY VOTES ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION.

## OTHER MATTERS

At the Annual Meeting, management does not intend to present any matters other than matters referred to herein, and as of this date management does not know of any matter that will be presented for a vote thereat.

## STOCKHOLDER PROPOSALS

Under the rules of the SEC, stockholder proposals intended to be presented at the Company's 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders in accordance with Rule 14a-8 promulgated under the Exchange Act must be made in accordance with the bylaws of the Company and received by the Company, at its principal executive offices, to be eligible for inclusion in the Company's proxy statement for that meeting, no later than December 31, 2014. The proposal must otherwise comply with all requirements of the SEC for stockholders proposals. Appropriate stockholder proposals submitted outside of Rule 14a-8 must be pursuant to our bylaws and policies. The Board will review any stockholder proposals that are filed as required and will determine whether such proposals meet applicable criteria for inclusion in its 2015 proxy statement.

## SOLICITATION OF PROXIES

The Company will pay the cost of the solicitation of proxies. Solicitation of proxies may be made in person or by mail, telephone, or teletype by directors, officers, and employees of the Company. The Company may also engage the services of others to solicit proxies in person or by telephone or teletype. In addition, the Company may also request banking institutions, brokerage firms, custodians, nominees, and fiduciaries to forward solicitation material to the beneficial owners of Common Stock held of record by such persons, and the Company will reimburse such persons for the costs related to such services.

It is important that your shares be represented at the Annual Meeting. If you are unable to be present in person, you may vote by telephone or via the Internet. If you have received a paper copy of the proxy card by mail you may also sign, date and return the proxy card promptly in the enclosed postage-prepaid envelope.

## "HOUSEHOLDING" OF PROXY MATERIALS

The SEC has adopted rules that permit companies and intermediaries such as brokers to satisfy delivery requirements for proxy statements and related notices with respect to two or more stockholders sharing the same address by delivering a single proxy statement or notice addressed to those stockholders. This process, which is commonly referred to as "householding," potentially provides extra convenience for stockholders and cost savings for companies. The Company and some brokers household proxy materials, delivering a single proxy statement or notice to multiple stockholders sharing an address unless contrary instructions have been received from one or more of the affected stockholders. Once you have received notice from your broker or us that they or we will be householding materials to your address, householding will continue until you are notified otherwise or until you instruct us to the contrary. If, at any time, you no longer wish to participate in householding and would prefer to receive a separate proxy statement and related notices, or if you are receiving multiple copies of the proxy statement and related notices and wish to receive only one, please notify your broker if your shares are held in a brokerage account or us if you hold registered shares. You may notify us by sending a written request to Investor Relations, Zion Oil & Gas, Inc., 6510 Abrams Rd., Suite 300, Dallas, Texas 75231 or by calling us at (214) 221-4610.

The Company undertakes to deliver promptly, upon written or oral request, a separate copy of the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013, the Proxy Statement and the Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders and related notices to a stockholder at a shared address to which a single copy of such documents was delivered. Stockholders may make such request in writing, directed to Investor Relations, Zion Oil & Gas, Inc., 6510



Abrams Rd., Suite 300, Dallas, Texas 75231 or by calling us at (214) 221-4610.

By Order of the Board of Directors

/s/ VICTOR G. CARRILLO

Victor G. Carrillo

President and Chief Operating Officer

April 25, 2014

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