

EXHIBIT A

DIME COMMUNITY BANCSHARES, INC. RISK COMMITTEE CHARTER

I. Purpose

The Risk Committee (the “Committee”) is appointed by the Boards of Directors (the “Board”) of Dime Community Bancshares, Inc. The Committee’s purpose is to assist the Board with respect to oversight of the Company’s risk: identification; measurement; control processes; and ongoing monitoring. The focus of the Committee will be on the Company’s primary risk categories, including emerging risks. Generally, these risks can be categorized in the following classifications – credit risk, interest rate risk, liquidity risk, market (price) risk, operational risk, technological (including cyber security) risk, compliance and legal risk, strategic risk, and reputational risk. The Committee shall perform duties and responsibilities enumerated in and consistent with this Charter, and shall consider risk in relation to the business objectives articulated in the Company’s Financial Plan as well as the Board’s responsibilities regarding preservation of shareholder value.

II. Appointment and Composition

The Committee will be composed of a minimum of three non-management Directors, at least two of whom shall be independent pursuant to applicable law, regulation, stock exchange rules, and Company policy. Members of the Committee shall be appointed annually by the Board, acting upon the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, and shall serve for a one-year term or until their resignation, retirement, or removal by the Board.

The Board shall appoint one member of the Committee as Chairperson. In the absence of the Chairperson at any meetings of the Committee, the members of the Committee in attendance may designate a Chairperson by majority vote. The Chairperson shall be responsible for leadership of the Committee, including scheduling and presiding over meetings.

III. Authority

The Committee shall have complete access to, and complete and open communication with management. The Committee shall have the authority to obtain, at Company expense in an amount determined by the Committee, advice and assistance from internal and/or external risk, legal, accounting or other advisors to assist it in the performance of its responsibilities and duties.

The Committee may delegate such of its responsibilities and duties as it deems appropriate to (i) subcommittees comprised of one or more Committee members, or (ii) officers of the Company, provided, however, that any such subcommittees shall meet all applicable independence requirements and that the Committee shall not delegate to persons other than

independent directors any functions that are required, under applicable law, regulation, or stock exchange rule, to be performed by independent directors.

The Committee may meet in joint session with other Committees of the Board, including the Audit Committee, from time to time to discuss areas of common interest and significant matters including, but not limited to, credit policy, significant accounting issues, frauds, regulatory pronouncements and enforcement actions, major litigation or whistleblower matters, systemic technology issues, and any other issue requirement assessment by the Committee.

The Committee shall be provided full access to the Company's Board and executive management as necessary to satisfy its responsibilities and duties. In its discretion the Committee may meet in executive session at any meeting of the Committee. In executive session the Committee may meet without representatives of management present or with such members of management as the Committee may deem appropriate. The Committee may request any officer or employee of the Company to attend a meeting of the Committee or to meet with any members of, or consultants to, the Committee.

Minutes of its meetings will be approved by the Committee and maintained on behalf of the Committee. The Committee shall report its activities to the Company's Board of Directors on a regular basis and make such recommendations, as it deems necessary or appropriate.

IV. Responsibilities and Duties

The Committee shall perform the functions detailed below in fulfilling its purpose as set forth in this Charter. These responsibilities are intended to serve as a guide, and the Committee may execute supplementary functions and adopt additional policies and procedures as may be appropriate in view of varying business, legislative, regulatory or other conditions. The Committee shall additionally perform any other responsibilities and duties delegated to it by the Board related to the purpose of the Committee as set forth in this Charter.

To fulfill its purpose, the Committee shall:

- Review significant financial and other risk exposures and the steps management has taken to monitor, control and report such exposures, including, without limitation, credit, interest rate, liquidity, market, operational and technological, compliance and legal, strategic, and reputational risks.
- Meet with, and receive information from, the Company's Risk Management Group and others with respect to risk assessment and risk management, and recommend actions or other steps it deems necessary.
- Evaluate risk exposures and tolerances. Review the appropriateness of transactional limits recommended by management.

IV. Responsibilities and Duties (continued)

- Review and evaluate the Company's policies, procedures and practices with respect to risk assessment and risk management and annually present to the Board a report summarizing the Committee's review of the Company's methods for identifying and managing risk.
- Review reports and significant findings of the Risk Management Group and the Internal Audit Department with respect to the risk management activities of the Company, together with management's responses and subsequent follow-up to these reports.
- Review significant cyber risk exposures and the steps management has taken to monitor, control and report such exposures.
- Review significant reports from regulatory agencies relating to risk issues, and management's responses and subsequent follow-up to these reports. Coordinate with the appropriate Committee when these issues are subject to the jurisdiction of another Committee of the Board of Directors pursuant to that committee's charter.
- Coordinate with other Board-level and Management-level committees as appropriate concerning risk management issues within the other committees' respective areas of responsibility.
- Review the scope of the work of the Company's Risk Management Group and its planned activities with respect to the risk management activities of the Company.
- Review with management regular updates regarding corporate-wide compliance with laws and regulations. Make annual reports to the Board regarding Company-wide compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- Escalate to the Audit Committee for discussion at a joint session of the Audit and Risk Committees any items that have a significant financial statement impact or require significant financial statement/regulatory disclosures, and escalate other significant issues to the Board including, but not limited to, significant compliance issues, as soon as deemed necessary by the Committee.
- Ensure that communications are periodically made with the appropriate regulators.
- Review the appointment, performance and replacement of the Company's Chief Risk Officer. Discuss with the Chief Risk Officer and management the Risk Management Group's responsibilities, budget and staffing.
- Perform an annual performance evaluation of the Committee and report the results to the Board.

- Review and assess the adequacy of this Charter on an annual basis and recommend any necessary changes to the Board for approval.

V. Meetings

The Chairperson of the Committee shall establish its rules of procedure, which shall be consistent with the bylaws of the Company and this Charter. A majority of the number of Committee members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Committee. If a quorum is present, the affirmative vote of a majority of Committee members present shall constitute the act of the Committee.

The Committee may take any action without a meeting if all members of the Committee execute one or more written consents setting forth the action.

The Committee shall meet at least quarterly. The Chairperson of the Board may call special meetings of the Committee. The attendance of a member at a meeting of the Committee shall constitute a waiver of notice of the meeting except where a member attends a meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of business because the meeting has not been lawfully convened.

Notwithstanding anything herein, the Committee is not responsible for guaranteeing the Company's compliance with laws, regulations, Company policies or procedures. This is the sole responsibility of Company management.