JONES SODA CO Form DEF 14A April 08, 2005

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the

Securities Exchange Act of 1934

| Filed | d by the Registrant x Filed by a Party other than the Registrant " |
|-------|---|
| Chec | ck the appropriate box: |
| | Preliminary Proxy Statement |
| | Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2)) |
| x | Definitive Proxy Statement |

- " Definitive Additional Materials
- " Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14A-12

JONES SODA CO.

| | | (Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter) |
|-----|------|---|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | (Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant) |
| | | |
| Pay | ment | of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box): |
| x | No | fee required. |
| | 110 | |
| | Fee | computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(4) 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 computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing gee 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. |

[&]quot; 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: |
| | |

| | 234 Ninth Avenue North | T 206-624-3357 |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| | Seattle, WA | F 206-624-6857 |
| | 98109 | www.jonessoda.com |
| NOT | TICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF | SHAREHOLDERS |
| | MAY 19, 2005 | |
| | 2:00 p.m. | |
| To Jones Soda Co. Shareholders: | | |
| | | Co., a Washington corporation (the Company), will be held ue North, Seattle, Washington for the following purposes: |
| 1. to elect eight directors to the | Company s board of directors; | |
| 2. to ratify the appointment of | KPMG LLP as independent auditors of the Co | ompany for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2005; and |
| 3. to transact such other busine | ss as may properly come before the meeting a | nd any adjournments thereof. |
| | fully described in the Proxy Statement accompto notice of and to vote at the annual meeting. | panying this Notice. Shareholders of record at the close of . |
| By Order of the Board of Directors, | | |
| JONES SODA CO. | | |
| JENNIFER L. CUE | | |
| Secretary | | |
| Seattle, Washington | | |
| April 8, 2005 | | |
| | | |

Whether or not you expect to attend the annual meeting in person, we urge you to complete, sign, date and return the enclosed proxy at your earliest convenience. This will ensure the presence of a quorum at the annual meeting. Promptly signing, dating and returning the proxy will save the Company the expense and extra work of additional solicitation. An addressed envelope, for which no postage is required if mailed in the United States, is enclosed for that purpose. Sending in your proxy will not prevent you from voting your shares at the meeting if you desire to do so, as your proxy is revocable at your option. Please note, however, that if a broker, bank or other nominee is the record holder of your shares and you wish to attend and vote at the meeting, you must obtain a proxy issued in your name from such broker, bank or other nominee.

| JONES SODA CO. |
|---|
| 234 Ninth Avenue North |
| Seattle, Washington 98109 |
| PROXY STATEMENT |
| |
| INFORMATION CONCERNING SOLICITATION AND VOTING |
| General |
| This Proxy Statement is furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the Board of Directors of Jones Soda Co., to be voted at the 2005 annual meeting of the shareholders. The 2005 annual meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m. (local time) on Thursday, May 19, 2005, or at any continuation or adjournment thereof (the Annual Meeting). The Annual Meeting will be held at our corporate offices at 234 Ninth Avenue North, Seattle, Washington for the purposes set forth in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders. |

We intend to mail this Proxy Statement and accompanying proxy card on or about April 12, 2005, to all shareholders entitled to vote at the

We intend to mail this Proxy Statement and accompanying proxy card on or about April 12, 2005, to all shareholders entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting. A copy of our Annual Report on Form 10-KSB for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2004, including financial statements, accompanies this Proxy Statement.

Voting and Outstanding Shares

Only holders of record of our common stock (Common Stock) at the close of business on March 25, 2005, are entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting. There were 21,380,721 shares of Common Stock issued and outstanding on that date. Shareholders are entitled to one vote for each share of Common Stock held on all matters to be voted upon at the Annual Meeting.

Quorum; Approval Requirements

The presence, in person or by proxy, of holders of record of at least 33 \(^1/3\%\) of the outstanding shares of Common Stock constitutes a quorum at the Annual Meeting. Under Washington law and our Articles of Incorporation, assuming the presence of a quorum, the election of directors requires a plurality of votes represented in person or by proxy at the meeting, and each of the other proposals described in the accompanying

Notice to Shareholders requires that the votes cast in favor exceed the votes cast against the proposal. Pacific Corporate Trust Company, our transfer agent, will tabulate all votes and will separately tabulate affirmative and negative votes, abstentions and broker non-votes.

Abstentions and Broker Non-Votes

A shareholder who abstains from voting on any or all proposals will be included in the number of shareholders present at the Annual Meeting for the purpose of determining the presence of a quorum. Abstentions will not be counted either in favor of or against the election of the nominees or other proposals. Brokers holding stock for the accounts of their clients who have not been given specific voting instructions as to a matter by their clients may vote their clients proxies in their own discretion, to the extent permitted under the rules of the National Association of Securities Dealers. Broker non-votes will be included in determining the presence of a quorum, but will not be counted in determining whether a matter has been approved.

1

Solicitation of Proxies

The proxies being solicited hereby are being solicited by the Board of Directors. We will bear the entire cost of solicitation of proxies, including preparation, assembly and mailing of this Proxy Statement, the proxy card and any additional information furnished to shareholders. Copies of solicitation materials will be furnished to banks, brokerage houses, fiduciaries and custodians holding shares of the Common Stock in their names that are beneficially owned by others to forward to such beneficial owners. We may reimburse persons representing beneficial owners for their costs of forwarding the solicitation material to such beneficial owners. Original solicitation of proxies by mail may be supplemented by telephone, email, facsimile or personal solicitation by our directors, officers or other regular employees. No additional compensation will be paid to directors, officers or other regular employees for such services.

Shareholder Proposals for 2006 Annual Meeting

Shareholders interested in submitting a proposal for inclusion in the proxy materials for the annual meeting of shareholders in 2006 may do so by following the procedures prescribed in SEC Rule 14a-8. To be eligible for inclusion, shareholder proposals must be received by us not later than December 9, 2005. Proposals should be sent to Corporate Secretary, Jones Soda Co., 234 Ninth Avenue North, Seattle, Washington 98109. We reserve the right to reject, rule out of order, or take other appropriate action with respect to any proposal that does not comply with these and other applicable requirements.

Revocability of Proxies

Any shareholder who executes a proxy pursuant to this solicitation retains the right to revoke it at any time before it is voted. It may be revoked by delivering to our Corporate Secretary, at or prior to the Annual Meeting, either a written notice of revocation or a duly executed proxy bearing a later date. Alternatively, it may be revoked by attending the Annual Meeting and voting in person. Attendance at the Annual Meeting will not, by itself, revoke a proxy.

PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS

The following table sets forth as of March 25, 2005, certain information regarding the beneficial ownership of our outstanding Common Stock by the following persons or groups:

each person who, to our knowledge, beneficially owns more than 5% of our Common Stock;

each Named Executive Officer identified in the Executive Compensation table below;

each of our current directors and director nominees, and

all of our directors and executive officers as a group.

As of March 25, 2005, there were 21,380,721 shares of Common Stock issued and outstanding. Unless otherwise indicated, each person s address is c/o Jones Soda Co., 234 Ninth Avenue North, Seattle, WA 98109.

| Name and Address | No. of Shares(1) | Percent |
|--|------------------|---------|
| | | |
| Peter M. van Stolk(2) | 2,059,194 | 9.4% |
| Jennifer L. Cue(3) | 544,734 | 2.5 |
| Matthew Kellogg(4) | 230,000 | 1.1 |
| Scott Bedbury(5) | 160,000 | * |
| Ron B. Anderson(6) | 116,700 | * |
| Michael M. Fleming(7) | 45,000 | * |
| John J. Gallagher, Jr.(8) | 20,000 | * |
| Alfred W. Rossow, Jr.(9) | 20,000 | * |
| All current directors and executive officers as a group (eight persons) (10) | 3,195,628 | 14.1% |

Less than one percent

- (1) The above table is based upon information supplied by such principal shareholders, executive officers, and directors. Unless otherwise indicated in the footnotes to this table and subject to community property laws where applicable, we believe that the each of the shareholders named in this table has sole voting and investment power with respect to the shares shown as beneficially owned by him or her.
- (2) Includes 495,000 shares subject to stock options that are exercisable within 60 days of March 25, 2005 (Vested Options) held by Mr. van Stolk. Includes 100,000 shares held of record by 543608 BC Ltd., a British Columbia corporation for which Mr. van Stolk serves as sole shareholder. Also includes 729,000 shares currently held in escrow with Pacific Corporate Trust Company, pursuant to the terms of an escrow agreement dated November 15, 2002, in conformance with the policies of the TSX Venture Exchange (the TSX Escrow).
- (3) Includes 420,000 shares subject to Vested Options held by Ms. Cue, and 44,600 shares held of record by 548919 BC Ltd., a British Columbia corporation for which Ms. Cue serves as sole shareholder. Also includes 10,000 shares currently held in escrow, pursuant to the terms of the TSX Escrow.

- (4) Includes 180,000 shares subject to Vested Options held by Mr. Kellogg.
- (5) Includes 40,000 shares subject to Vested Options held by Mr. Bedbury.
- (6) Includes 80,000 shares subject to Vested Options held by Mr. Anderson.
- (7) Includes 40,000 shares subject to Vested Options held by Mr. Fleming.
- (8) Consists of 20,000 shares subject to Vested Options held by Mr. Gallagher.
- (9) Consists of 20,000 shares subject to Vested Options held by Mr. Rossow.
- (10) Consists of Peter van Stolk, Jennifer Cue, Ron Anderson, Scott Bedbury, Michael Fleming, Jack Gallagher, Matthew Kellogg and Al Rossow. Includes an aggregate of 1,295,000 shares subject to Vested Options held by such persons.

3

Section 16 Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1933, as amended, requires our directors and executive officers, and persons who own more than 10% of our outstanding Common Stock (collectively, Reporting Persons) to file with the Securities and Exchange Commission initial reports of ownership and reports of changes in ownership of our Common Stock. Reporting Persons are also required by SEC regulations to furnish us with copies of all such ownership reports they file.

Based solely on our review of the copies of such reports received or written communications from certain Reporting Persons, we believe that, except as set forth below, during the 2004 fiscal year, all Reporting Persons complied with all Section 16(a) filing requirements. The following Reporting Persons had late filings for 2004:

Ron Anderson filed one late Form 4, reporting two late transactions (exercises of stock options);

Michael Fleming filed three late Forms 4, reporting three late transactions (grant of stock options, exercise of stock options and open market sale of shares);

Matthew Kellogg filed one late Form 4, reporting three late transactions (open market sales of shares);

Peter Leahy, our former Senior Vice President of Sales, filed a late Form 3 following his appointment as an executive officer.

DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Our directors and executive officers as of March 25, 2005, are as follows:

| Name | Age | Position |
|------------------------------|-----|---|
| Peter M. van Stolk | 41 | President, Chief Executive Officer and |
| | | Chairman of the Board |
| Jennifer L. Cue | 41 | Chief Financial Officer, Chief Operating Officer, Secretary and |
| | | Director |
| Ron B. Anderson(1)(2) | 52 | Director |
| Scott Bedbury(2)(3) | 47 | Director |
| Michael M. Fleming(3) | 56 | Director |
| John J. Gallagher, Jr.(1)(3) | 56 | Director |
| Matthew Kellogg | 39 | Director |
| Alfred W. Rossow, Jr.(1)(2) | 72 | Director |

⁽¹⁾ Member of Audit Committee

- (2) Member of Nomination Committee
- (3) Member of Compensation Committee

Officers are appointed by the Board of Directors. Each executive officer named above will serve until his or her successor is appointed or until his or her earlier death, resignation or removal. It is expected that each of the above officers will be reappointed by the Board of Directors immediately following the Annual Meeting.

A majority of directors on our Board of Directors are independent within the meaning of the listing standards of The Nasdaq Stock Market.

For the biographical summary of our executive officers and directors, see Proposal 1. Election of Directors Nominees below.

4

Board Meetings and Committees

During the 2004 fiscal year, the Board of Directors held 11 meetings. Each director was in attendance at more than 75% of the meetings held of the Board and any committees on which she or he served during his or her tenure as a director in 2004.

Our Board currently has an Audit Committee, a Compensation Committee and a Nomination Committee.

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee represents the Board of Directors in discharging its responsibilities relating to our accounting, reporting, financial and internal control practices. The committee has general responsibility for reviewing with management the financial and internal controls and the accounting, auditing and reporting activities of our company and our subsidiaries. The committee annually reviews the qualifications and objectivity of our independent auditors, is responsible for selecting, retaining or replacing our independent auditors, reviews the scope, fees and result of their audit, reviews and approves any non-audit services and related fees, is informed of their significant audit findings and management s responses thereto, and annually reviews the status of significant current and potential legal matters. The Audit Committee reviews the quarterly and annual financial statements and recommends their acceptance to the Board of Directors.

The Audit Committee currently consists of Ron Anderson (Chair), Al Rossow and Jack Gallagher. Each member of the Audit Committee is financially literate, and the Board has determined that Mr. Anderson, the Chair of the Audit Committee, is qualified as an audit committee financial expert within the meaning of SEC regulations based on his accounting and related financial management expertise. All of the directors on the Audit Committee qualify as independent directors within the meaning of the listing standards of The Nasdaq Stock Market. The Audit Committee held four meetings in fiscal 2004.

In December 2004, the Board of Directors adopted a written charter for the Audit Committee. A copy of the written charter is included with this Proxy Statement at *Appendix A*.

Compensation Committee

The Compensation Committee oversees incentive compensation plans for officers and key employees and approves standards for setting compensation plans for senior executives. The committee also approves the compensation of certain employees whose salary is above specified levels and makes recommendations to the Board for approval as required. The committee also recommends bonuses and stock option awards. This committee meets as needed.

The Compensation Committee currently consists of Michael Fleming (Chair), Scott Bedbury and Jack Gallagher. All of the directors on the Compensation Committee qualify as independent directors within the meaning of the listing standards of The Nasdaq Stock Market. The Compensation Committee met three times during fiscal 2004.

The Board of Directors has not adopted a written charter for the Compensation Committee.

Nomination Committee

The Nomination Committee identifies and recommends candidates for election to the Board. It advises the Board on all matters relating to directorship practices, including the criteria for selecting directors, policies relating to tenure and retirement of directors, and compensation and benefit programs for non-employee directors. The committee makes recommendations relating to the duties and membership of committees of the Board. The committee recommends processes to evaluate the performance and contribution of individual directors and the Board of Directors as a whole and approves procedures designated to provide that adequate

orientation and training are provided to new members of the Board of Directors. The Nomination Committee consults with the Chief Executive Officer in its process of recruiting new directors. The Nomination Committee may also assist in locating senior management personnel.

The Nomination Committee currently consists of Scott Bedbury (Chair), Ron Anderson and Al Rossow. All of the directors on the Compensation Committee qualify as independent directors within the meaning of the listing standards of The Nasdaq Stock Market. The Nomination Committee met one time during fiscal 2004.

The Board of Directors has not adopted a written charter for the Nomination Committee.

Policy on Shareholder Nomination of Directors

Candidates for election to our Board of Directors are nominated by our Nomination Committee and ratified by our full Board of Directors for nomination to the shareholders.

In identifying candidates to be directors, the Nomination Committee seeks persons it believes to be knowledgeable in our business or having beverage or consumer products industry experience, or some aspect of it which would benefit our company. Our Nomination Committee believes that the minimum qualifications for serving on our Board of Directors are that each director has an exemplary reputation and record for honesty and integrity in his or her personal dealings and business or professional activity. All directors should possess a basic understanding of financial matters, and have an ability to review and understand our financial statements and other reports and to discuss such matters intelligently and effectively. The Nomination Committee will take into account whether a candidate qualifies as independent under applicable SEC rules and exchange listing requirements. If a nominee is sought for service on the audit committee, the Nomination Committee will take into account the financial and accounting expertise of a candidate, including whether an individual qualifies as an audit committee financial expert. Each candidate also needs to exhibit qualities of independence in thought and action. Finally, a candidate should be committed to the interests of our shareholders; accordingly, persons who represent a particular special interest, ideology, narrow perspective or point of view would not, therefore, generally be considered good candidates for election to our Board.

Candidates have traditionally been recommended to the Board by our Chief Executive Officer or one of the other directors, and there has not been a formal process for identifying new director nominees. Our Nomination Committee also is open to receiving recommendations from shareholders as to potential candidates it might consider. The Nomination Committee gives equal consideration to all director nominees, whether recommended by our shareholders, management or current directors.

A shareholder wishing to submit a director nomination should send a letter to the Nomination Committee, c/o Corporate Secretary, Jones Soda Co., 234 Ninth Avenue North, Seattle, WA 98109. The mailing envelope must contain a clear notation indicating that the enclosed letter is a Director Nominee Recommendation. The notice must also be accompanied by a written consent of the proposed nominee to being named as a nominee and to serve as a director if elected. In making recommendations, shareholders should be mindful of the discussion of minimum qualifications set forth above; although satisfaction of such minimum qualification standards does not imply that the Nomination Committee necessarily will nominate the person so recommended by a shareholder. In addition, for nominees for election to the Board proposed by shareholders to be considered, the following information must be timely submitted with the director nomination:

the name, age, business address and, if known, residence address of each nominee;

the principal occupation or employment of each nominee;

the number of shares of stock of Jones Soda Co. beneficially owned by each nominee;

the name and address of the shareholder making the nomination and any other shareholders known by such shareholder to be supporting such nominee;

6

the number of shares of stock of Jones Soda Co. beneficially owned by such shareholder making the nomination, and by each other shareholder known by such shareholder to be supporting such nominee:

any other information relating to the nominee or nominating shareholder that is required to be disclosed under SEC rules in order to have a shareholder proposal included in our proxy statement; and

a representation that the shareholder intends to appear in person or by proxy at the annual meeting to nominate the person named in its notice.

According to our Bylaws, any shareholder entitled to vote at an annual meeting may make a nomination for the election of directors. The nomination must be in writing and be delivered to our Corporate Secretary, at 234 Ninth Avenue North, Seattle, WA 98109. The notice must be received not less than 14 days nor more than 50 days prior to the date of the annual meeting; provided, however, that if less than 21 days notice of the meeting is given to the shareholders, such written notice of nomination must be delivered to our Corporate Secretary not later than 5:00 p.m. on the seventh day following the day on which notice of the meeting was mailed to the shareholders (estimated as April 15, 2005).

Shareholder Communication with the Board

Shareholders who wish to communicate with our Board of Directors or with a particular director can send correspondence to our Corporate Secretary, c/o Jones Soda Co., 234 Ninth Avenue North, Seattle, WA 98109. The mailing envelope must contain a clear notation indicating that the enclosed letter is a Shareholder-Board Communication or Shareholder-Director Communication. All such correspondence must identify the author as a shareholder of Jones Soda Co., and clearly state whether the intended recipients are all members of the Board of Directors or just certain specified directors.

Depending on the subject matter of the communication, management will do one of the following:

forward the communication to the director or directors to whom it is addressed;

attempt to handle the inquiry directly, for example where it is a request for information about the company or it is a stock related matter; or

not forward the communication if it is primarily commercial in nature, if it relates to an improper or irrelevant topic, or if it is unduly hostile, threatening, illegal or otherwise inappropriate.

At each Board meeting, management will present a summary of all communications received since the last meeting that were not forwarded and shall make those communications available to the directors.

In addition, any person who desires to communicate any matter specifically to our Audit Committee may contact the Audit Committee by addressing a letter to the Chairman of the Audit Committee, c/o Corporate Secretary, Jones Soda Co., 234 Ninth Avenue North, Seattle, WA 98109. Communications addressed to the Audit Committee Chair may be submitted anonymously, in which event the envelope will **not** be opened for any purpose, other than appropriate security inspections. Otherwise, such mailing will be forwarded directly to the Chair of our Audit Committee for his or her review and follow-up action as he or she deems appropriate.

Director Compensation

Non-management directors receive a fee of \$500 for each Board meeting attended, and a fee of \$250 for each Board conference call and each Board committee meeting attended. Our lead independent director receives a fee of \$1,000 for each Board meeting attended, and a fee of \$500 for each Board conference call and each Board committee meeting attended. Each non-management director also receives an annual grant of stock options to purchase 20,000 shares of common stock. The exercise price of these options is at the fair market value on the date of grant and the options vest over a period of 18 months from the date of grant, at the rate of 25% on the date of grant and an additional 25% on each six month anniversary of the date of grant. In addition,

non-management directors are reimbursed for their out of pocket expenses incurred in attending meetings of the Board of Directors and committee meetings. We maintain liability insurance on our directors and officers. Management directors receive no additional compensation for their service on the Board of Directors.

Director Attendance at Annual Meeting of Shareholders

We do not have a formal policy requiring director attendance at our annual meeting of shareholders, however, all directors are encouraged to attend. At last year s 2004 annual meeting of shareholders, six of our directors were in attendance.

Code of Ethics

We have adopted a code of ethics applicable to our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller, or persons performing similar functions. We filed a copy of the Code as Exhibit 14.1 to our annual report on Form 10-KSB for the 2003 fiscal year, which may be accessed through the SEC s website at www.sec.gov.

REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Audit Committee of our Board of Directors serves as the representative of the Board for general oversight of our financial accounting and reporting process, system of internal control, audit process, and process for monitoring compliance with laws and regulations. Management has primary responsibility for preparing our financial statements, our internal controls and our financial reporting process. Our independent accountants, KPMG LLP, are responsible for performing an independent audit of our consolidated financial statements in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and to issue its report.

In this context, the Audit Committee has met and held discussions with management and the independent accountants. Management represented to the Audit Committee that our consolidated financial statements were prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and the Audit Committee has reviewed and discussed the consolidated financial statements with management and the independent accountants. The Audit Committee discussed with the independent accountants matters required to be discussed by Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61 (Communications with Audit Committees).

Our independent accountants also provided to the Audit Committee the written disclosures and letter required by Independence Standards Board Standard No. 1 (Independence Discussions with Audit Committees), and the Audit Committee discussed with the independent accountants that firm s independence.

Based upon the Audit Committee s discussion with management and the independent accountants, and upon the Audit Committee s review of the representations of management and the report of the independent accountants to the Audit Committee, the Audit Committee recommended that the Board of Directors include the audited consolidated financial statements in our Annual Report on Form 10-KSB for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2004 for filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Audit Committee of the Board of Directors

Ron B. Anderson

John J. Gallagher, Jr.

Alfred W. Rossow, Jr.

THE FOREGOING AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT SHALL NOT BE DEEMED TO BE SOLICITING MATERIAL OR TO BE FILED WITH THE SEC, NOR SHALL SUCH INFORMATION BE INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE INTO ANY PAST OR FUTURE FILING UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OR THE EXCHANGE ACT, EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT THE COMPANY SPECIFICALLY INCORPORATES IT BY REFERENCE INTO SUCH FILING.

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Compensation of Executive Officers

The following table shows for each of the three fiscal years ended December 31, 2004, 2003 and 2002, respectively, certain compensation awarded or paid to, or earned by, the following persons (collectively, the Named Executive Officers):

Peter van Stolk, our Chief Executive Officer; and

Jennifer L. Cue, our Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer.

Other than the Named Executive Officers, none of our executive officers earned more than \$100,000 in salary and bonus for the 2004 fiscal year.

Summary Compensation Table

| | | | Annual Compen | Long Term Compensation | | |
|---|----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|
| Name and Principal Position | Fiscal Year | Salary(\$) | Bonus(\$) | Other Annual Compensation(\$) | Securities Under Options Granted (1)(#) | |
| Peter van Stolk, | | | | | | |
| Chief Executive Officer | 2004 2003 | \$ 125,268 95,049 | \$ 15,000 5,000 | \$ 12,539 12,420 | 80,000 80,000 | |
| Jennifer L. Cue, | 2002 | 90,000 | 101,416 | 10,344 | 250,000 | |
| Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer | 2004 2003 2002 | \$ 125,268 95,049 90,000 | \$ 15,000 16,633 | | 80,000 80,000 100,000 | |

⁽¹⁾ All referenced options granted are exercisable at prices equal to or higher than the fair market value of the Common Stock on the respective dates of grant.

Stock Option Grants

The following table shows information regarding stock options granted to the Named Executive Officers during the 2004 fiscal year:

Percentage of

| | No. of Shares Total | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| | Underlying Options | | Exercise | |
| | Options | Granted to | Price Per | |
| Name | Granted | Employees | Share (US\$) | Expiration Date(1) |
| Peter van Stolk Jennifer L. Cue | 80,000 80,000 | 14.3% 14.3% | \$ 2.15 \$ 2.15 | January 4, 2009 January 4, 2009 |

⁽¹⁾ The options vest over a period of 18 months from the grant date, with 25% vested on the grant date and 25% vesting on each six month anniversary of the grant date.

Aggregated Option Exercises and Fiscal Year-End 2004 Option Values

The following table presents information about options held by the Named Executive Officers and the value of those options as of December 31, 2004.

| | Number of Shares Underlying | | Value of | Unexer | cised | | |
|-----------------|---|--------------|------------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------|----------------|
| | | | Unexercised Options at | | In-the-Mo | oney Op | otions |
| | Shares Acquired Value December 31, 2004 | | er 31, 2004 | December 31, 2004 | | 004 | |
| Name | on Exercise(#) | Realized(\$) | Exercisable (#) | Unexercisable (#) | Exercisable (\$) | Unex | ercisable (\$) |
| Peter van Stolk | 165,000 | \$ 277,927 | 450,000 | 40,000 | \$ 1,329,564 | \$ | 58,000 |
| Jennifer L. Cue | 240,000 | \$ 595,392 | 585,000 | 40,000 | \$ 1,651,272 | \$ | 58,000 |

Employment Agreements

Peter van Stolk. Mr. van Stolk serves as our Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to an employment agreement that is effective for a term of three years, beginning from December 1, 2004 and expiring on November 30, 2007, and month to month thereafter.

Pursuant to the employment agreement, Mr. van Stolk receives an annual base salary of \$125,000. The base salary may be increased, as necessary, so that during the first year of the agreement his salary is at least 65% of the highest annual salary paid to any other employee, and is at least 75% thereafter. Mr. van Stolk is eligible to receive (a) an annual performance bonus in an amount to be determined and agreed upon by us and Mr. van Stolk, to be based on objective performance criteria, and (b) annual stock options equal to a minimum of four times the total number of options granted to our outside directors. If we have not determined the annual bonus by the end of the fiscal year (or submitted to a neutral arbitrator) and if we have positive retained earnings as of the last day of the fiscal year, then the amount of the bonus will be equal to 50% of Mr. van Stolk s base salary for that year. Unless otherwise agreed, any bonus payments will be 50% in cash and 50% in our common stock. The employment agreement also provides for a \$600/month car allowance, four weeks annual vacation, term life insurance payable to Mr. van Stolk s designated beneficiary and disability insurance. During the term of the employment agreement, our Board of Directors will nominate Mr. van Stolk for re-election to the Board.

The employment agreement may be terminated by Mr. van Stolk, as follows: (a) upon 30 days notice of voluntary resignation; (b) upon 14 days notice if we are in breach of the agreement and the breach has not been cured; or (c) at any time after the expiration of 30 days from the date of a change of control or a change in our management or reporting structure. We may terminate the employment agreement (i) at any time, for termination for cause (as defined in the employment agreement) or (ii) upon 30 days notice, for termination without cause. In addition, the agreement will automatically terminate upon Mr. van Stolk s death or disability. A change of control includes (X) any person acquiring beneficial ownership of 15% or more of our outstanding common stock, (Y) any liquidation, sale or disposition of all or substantially all of our assets, or (Z) the election of a majority of the directors at a shareholders meeting who are not persons nominated by the then-incumbent board of directors.

Mr. van Stolk will be entitled to receive \$200,000 severance, plus any stock options he would be entitled to receive for the year of termination, in the event the agreement is terminated due to a breach by us, a change of control or change in management or reporting structure, or by us without cause. If Mr. van Stolk voluntarily resigns, he will be entitled to his base salary through the termination date, plus any stock options he would be entitled to receive for the year of termination. In the event of termination due to his death or disability, Mr. van Stolk s estate or legal representative will be entitled to receive an amount equal to one year s base salary.

The employment agreement also contains certain restrictive covenants, including confidentiality provisions and provisions precluding Mr. van Stolk from competing with us for up to 12 months following the term of the agreement.

Jennifer L. Cue. Ms. Cue serves as our Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer, pursuant to an employment agreement entered into on October 1, 2003, with a term through September 30, 2006.

Pursuant to the employment agreement, Ms. Cue receives an annual salary of \$90,000, and is eligible to receive (a) an annual performance bonus for each calendar year in an amount determined by the Board of Directors and (b) annual stock options equal to a minimum of four times the number of options granted to any one of our outside directors. In addition, in 2004, pursuant to the employment agreement, Ms. Cue received a performance bonus, based on the company meeting quarterly performance objectives and Ms. Cue s continued employment during each calendar quarter. We also provide Ms. Cue with a \$500 monthly car allowance and term life insurance payable to Ms. Cue s designated beneficiary and disability insurance. Under the employment agreement, we agreed to extend until December 31, 2005 the term of all stock options held by Ms. Cue that were due to expire in 2003, representing a total of 475,000 shares. For as long as Ms. Cue remains employed pursuant to the employment agreement, the Board of Directors will nominate Ms. Cue for re-election to the Board.

Ms. Cue may terminate the employment agreement (a) upon 30 days notice, (b) upon 14 days notice after a change of control, or (c) upon 14 days notice if we are in breach of the agreement. A change of control will be deemed to occur when a majority of the directors elected at any shareholders meeting are not individuals nominated by the then-incumbent Board of Directors. We may terminate the employment agreement (i) upon 30 days notice without cause or (ii) immediately for cause. The employment agreement also terminates upon Ms. Cue s becoming disabled or upon her death. In the event that the employment agreement is terminated by Ms. Cue upon a change of control or due to breach by us, or terminated by us without cause, Ms. Cue will be entitled to severance payments in an amount equal to three times her annual salary, plus her performance bonus and stock options, and she will have the right to exercise her stock options through the balance of their respective stated terms.

PROPOSAL 1 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Our Board of Directors is currently comprised of eight directors, all of which positions are to be elected at the Annual Meeting. Our Board of Directors has nominated the persons named below as candidates for election at the Annual Meeting. Each of the persons nominated is a current director. If elected at the Annual Meeting, each director nominee would hold office until the next annual meeting of shareholders or until his or her successor is duly elected and qualified or until his or her earlier death, resignation or removal. Directors are elected by a plurality of the shares voted at the Annual Meeting.

Unless otherwise directed, the persons named as proxies in the enclosed proxy card will vote the proxies received by them for the eight nominees named below. In the event that any of the nominees is unable or declines to serve as a director at or prior to the time of the Annual Meeting (an event that currently is not anticipated by management), the proxies will be voted for the election of such substitute nominee as the Board of Directors may propose.

Nominees

Set forth below is biographical information for each of the eight nominees as director.

| | | Director |
|--------------------|--|------------|
| Name | Position / Background | Since |
| Peter M. van Stolk | Peter M. van Stolk is our founder, and has served as our President, Chief Executive Officer and a director since May 1993, and as Chairman of the Board since December 2003. Mr. van Stolk began his career in the beverage industry in 1987 when he founded Urban Hand Ltd., the predecessor company to Jones Soda Co. He attended Grant McKewan College in Edmonton, Alberta. | May 1993 |
| Jennifer L. Cue | Jennifer L. Cue has served as our Chief Operating Officer since October 2002, Corporate Secretary since August 1997, Chief Financial Officer since February 1997, Vice President, Corporate and Financial Development, between October 1995 and January 1997, and a director since March 1995. Prior to October 1995, Ms. Cue served as Vice President Investment Research of D. Grant Macdonald Capital Corporation from February 1994, and prior to that served as Vice President, Investments at Penfund Management in Toronto, Ontario from November 1990. From 1986 to 1988, Ms. Cue worked in Commercial Banking for Lloyds Bank Canada. Ms. Cue holds an MBA from McGill University in Montreal and a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, British Columbia. Ms. Cue is also a Chartered Financial Analyst. | March 1995 |
| Ron B. Anderson | Ron B. Anderson has served as one of our directors since July 1994. Mr. Anderson is currently President of North Point Capital Corp., a private merc | |