

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

**CURRENT REPORT
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d)
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): August 11, 2023

Chinook Therapeutics, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

001-37345
(Commission
File No.)

94-3348934
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

**400 Fairview Avenue North, Suite 900
Seattle, WA**
(Address of principal executive offices)

98109
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (206) 485-7241

Not applicable

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13(c))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, par value \$0.0001 per share	KDNY	The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC (The Nasdaq Global Select Market)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§ 230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§ 240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Introductory Note.

This Current Report on Form 8-K is being filed in connection with the consummation on August 11, 2023 (the “Merger Closing Date”) of the transactions contemplated by the previously announced Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of June 11, 2023 (the “Merger Agreement”), by and among Chinook Therapeutics, Inc., a Delaware corporation (“Chinook” or the “Company”), Novartis AG, a company organized under the laws of Switzerland (“Parent” or “Novartis”), and Cherry Merger Sub Inc., a Delaware corporation and an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Novartis (“Merger Sub”).

As previously disclosed, on August 2, 2023, at a special meeting of stockholders of the Company, the Company’s stockholders voted to adopt the Merger Agreement. On the Merger Closing Date, pursuant to the Merger Agreement, Merger Sub merged with and into the Company (the “Merger”), with the Company surviving the Merger as an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Novartis.

Item 1.02 Termination of a Material Definitive Agreement.

Effective as of the Merger Closing Date, immediately prior to consummation of the Merger, the Company terminated the Aduro Biotech, Inc. 2009 Stock Incentive Plan, the Aduro Biotech, Inc. 2015 Employee Stock Purchase Plan, the Chinook Therapeutics, Inc. 2015 Equity Incentive Plan, the Chinook Therapeutics U.S., Inc. 2019 Equity Incentive Plan, the Chinook Therapeutics, Inc. 2022 Equity Inducement Plan and all other non-plan inducement awards.

As previously disclosed, on April 7, 2021, the Company entered into a Sales Agreement (the “Sales Agreement”), as amended by Amendment No. 1 to Sales Agreement dated November 10, 2022 (the “Amendment”, and together with the Sales Agreement, the “A&R Sales Agreement”) with Cantor Fitzgerald & Co. and SVB Securities LLC, previously known as SVB Leerink LLC, (the “Placement Agents”), with respect to an “at-the-market” offering program under which the Company could offer and sell, from time to time at the Company’s sole discretion, shares of its common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share (“Chinook common stock”), through the Placement Agents as the sales agents. Effective as of the Merger Closing Date, the Company terminated the A&R Sales Agreement. As a result, the “at-the-market” offering facility under the A&R Sales Agreement is no longer available for use.

A copy of the Sales Agreement was filed as [Exhibit 1.2](#) to the Company’s Registration Statement on Form S-3 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) on April 7, 2021 (the “2021 Form S-3”). A copy of the Amendment to the Sales Agreement was filed as [Exhibit 10.2](#) to the Company’s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on November 10, 2022 (the “2022 Form 10-Q”). The description of the A&R Sales Agreement contained in this Current Report on Form 8-K is qualified in its entirety by reference to the copy of the Sales Agreement filed as [Exhibit 1.2](#) to the 2021 Form S-3 and the copy of the Amendment filed as [Exhibit 10.2](#) to the 2022 Form 10-Q.

Item 2.01 Completion of Acquisition or Disposition of Assets.

The information set forth in the Introductory Note of this Current Report on Form 8-K is incorporated by reference into this Item 2.01. Capitalized terms used herein but not otherwise defined herein have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Merger Agreement.

At the effective time of the Merger (the “Effective Time”), each issued and outstanding share of Chinook common stock (other than shares owned by the Company, Parent, Merger Sub or certain of their respective subsidiaries (which shares were cancelled) and shares with respect to which appraisal rights were properly exercised and not withdrawn under Delaware law), as of immediately prior to the Effective Time, was automatically converted into the right to receive (i) \$40.00 in cash, without interest (the “Per Share Cash Consideration”) and (ii) one contractual contingent value right pursuant to the CVR Agreement (as defined and described below, a “CVR”).

Immediately prior to the Effective Time, Novartis and a rights agent entered into the Contingent Value Rights Agreement in the form attached as Exhibit A to the Merger Agreement (the “CVR Agreement”), governing the terms of the CVRs to be received by the Company’s stockholders and equity incentive award holders. The CVRs are not transferable except under certain limited circumstances, are not evidenced by a certificate or other instrument and are not registered or listed for trading. The CVRs do not have any voting or dividend rights and do not represent any equity or ownership interest in Novartis, Merger Sub, the Company or any of their affiliates.

Each CVR represents the right to receive the following contingent cash payments:

- \$2.00 if the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (the “FDA”) approves a new drug application for atrasentan for the treatment of Immunoglobulin A nephropathy, which approval does not impose a risk evaluation and mitigation strategy that is related to liver toxicity, on or before December 31, 2025; and
- \$2.00 if the FDA approves a new drug application for atrasentan for the treatment of focal segmental glomerulosclerosis on or before December 31, 2029.

There is no assurance that the milestones will be achieved during relevant periods, and that the resulting milestone payments will occur.

In addition, pursuant to the Merger Agreement, immediately prior to the Effective Time:

- each stock option to purchase shares of Chinook common stock (each, a “stock option”) that was then outstanding and unvested became immediately vested and exercisable in full. At the Effective Time, each stock option that was then outstanding was cancelled and converted into the right to receive, with respect to each share of Chinook common stock underlying such stock option, (i) an amount in cash, without interest and subject to applicable withholding taxes, equal to the excess, if any, of (A) the Per Share Cash Consideration over (B) the exercise price per share for such stock option, and (ii) one CVR, provided, however, that if the exercise price per share of Chinook common stock of such stock option was equal to or greater than the Per Share Cash Consideration, such stock option was cancelled without any cash payment, CVR or other consideration being made in respect thereof;
- each restricted stock unit (“RSU”) that was then outstanding and unvested became immediately vested in full. At the Effective Time, each RSU that was then outstanding was cancelled and converted into the right to receive, with respect to each share of Chinook common stock underlying such RSU, (i) an amount in cash, without interest and subject to applicable withholding taxes, equal to the Per Share Cash Consideration, and (ii) one CVR; and
- each performance stock unit award in respect of shares of Chinook common stock (each, a “PSU”) that was then outstanding and unvested became vested in full for the maximum number of shares of Chinook common stock underlying such PSU. At the Effective Time, each PSU that was then outstanding was cancelled and converted into the right to receive, with respect to each share of Chinook common stock underlying such PSU, (i) an amount in cash, without interest and subject to applicable withholding taxes, equal to the Per Share Cash Consideration, and (ii) one CVR.

The foregoing descriptions of the Merger, Merger Agreement, CVR Agreement and the other transactions contemplated thereby, do not purport to be complete and are qualified in their entirety by reference to the full text of the Merger Agreement and exhibits thereto, which was filed as [Exhibit 2.1](#) to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed by the Company with the SEC on June 12, 2023, and is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 3.01 Notice of Delisting or Failure to Satisfy a Continued Listing Rule or Standard; Transfer of Listing.

The information set forth in the Introductory Note and Item 2.01 of this Current Report on Form 8-K is incorporated by reference into this Item 3.01.

On the Merger Closing Date, the Company (i) notified The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC (“Nasdaq”) of the consummation of the Merger and (ii) requested that Nasdaq file with the SEC a Form 25 Notification of Removal from Listing and/or Registration to delist the shares of Chinook common stock from Nasdaq and deregister the shares of Chinook common stock under Section 12(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”). Upon effectiveness of the Form 25, the Company intends to file with the SEC a Certification and Notice of Termination on Form 15 to deregister the shares of Chinook common stock and suspend the Company’s reporting obligations under Sections 13 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act. Trading of Chinook common stock on Nasdaq was halted prior to the opening of trading on the Merger Closing Date.

Item 3.03 Material Modification to Rights of Security Holders.

The information set forth in the Introductory Note and Items 2.01, 3.01, 5.01 and 5.03 of this Current Report on Form 8-K is incorporated by reference into this Item 3.03.

As a result of the Merger, each share of Chinook common stock that was issued and outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time (except as described in Item 2.01 of this Current Report on Form 8-K) was converted, at the Effective Time, into the right to receive the Per Share Cash Consideration and one CVR. Accordingly, at the Effective Time, the holders of such shares of Chinook common stock ceased to have any rights as stockholders of the Company, other than the right to receive the Per Share Cash Consideration and one CVR.

Item 5.01 Change in Control of Registrant.

The information set forth in the Introductory Note and Items 2.01, 3.01, 3.03 and 5.03 of this Current Report on Form 8-K is incorporated by reference into this Item 5.01.

As a result of the Merger, at the Effective Time, a change of control of the Company occurred, and the Company became an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Parent.

Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

The information set forth in the Introductory Note of this Current Report on Form 8-K is incorporated by reference into this Item 5.02.

Pursuant to the Merger Agreement, at the Effective Time, each of Eric Dobmeier, Srinivas Akkaraju, Jerel Davis, William M. Greenman, Michelle Griffin, Mahesh Krishnan, Dolca Thomas and Robert W. Azelby ceased to be directors of the Company and members of any committee of the Company's board of directors, and the directors of Merger Sub immediately prior to the Effective Time became the directors of the Company. Additionally, at the Effective Time, each of Eric Dobmeier, Eric Bjerkholt, Tom Frohlich, Andrew King and Andrew Oxtoby ceased to be officers of the Company, and the officers of Merger Sub immediately prior to the Effective Time became the officers of the Company.

On August 9, 2023, the Company's Board approved the Chinook Therapeutics, Inc. Gross-Up Plan (the "Plan"), which provides each of a specified group of participating executives (including Eric Dobmeier, Andrew King and Eric Bjerkholt) with the right to receive a gross-up payment in the event that any payments or benefits in the nature of compensation provided to such participant in connection with the Merger become subject to an excise tax pursuant to Section 4999 of the Internal Revenue Code. The gross-up payment would generally place the participant in the same after-tax position that the participant would have been in if the excise tax did not apply to the participant, subject to an aggregate \$11.6 million cap in total gross-up payments that may be made to all participants under the Plan.

Item 5.03 Amendments to Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws; Change in Fiscal Year.

The information set forth in the Introductory Note of this Current Report on Form 8-K is incorporated by reference into this Item 5.03.

In connection with the completion of the Merger and pursuant to the Merger Agreement, at the Effective Time, the Company's certificate of incorporation and bylaws were amended and restated in their entirety. Copies of the Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and the Amended and Restated Bylaws are filed as Exhibits 3.1 and 3.2, respectively, to this Current Report on Form 8-K and are incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit No.	Description
2.1	Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of June 11, 2023, by and among Chinook Therapeutics, Inc., Novartis AG and Cherry Merger Sub Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to Chinook Therapeutics, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed June 12, 2023).
3.1	Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation.
3.2	Amended and Restated Bylaws.
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document).

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Dated: August 11, 2023

Chinook Therapeutics, Inc.

By: /s/ Eric Dobmeier

Name: Eric Dobmeier

Title: President and Chief Executive Officer

Certificate of Incorporation
of
Cherry Merger Sub Inc.

1. The name of the corporation is “Cherry Merger Sub Inc.” (the “**Corporation**”).
2. The address of the Corporation’s registered office is Corporation Service Company, 251 Little Falls Drive, New Castle County Wilmington, Delaware 19808. The Corporation Service Company is the Corporation’s registered agent at that address.
3. The purpose of the Corporation is to engage in any lawful act or activity for which corporations may be organized under the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware (the “**DGCL**”). The Corporation shall have all power necessary or convenient to the conduct, promotion or attainment of such acts and activities.
4. The Corporation shall have authority to issue a total of 1,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share.
5. In furtherance and not in limitation of the powers conferred upon it by law, the Board of Directors of the Corporation is expressly authorized to adopt, amend or repeal the Bylaws of the Corporation.
6. The number of directors of the Corporation shall be such number as from time to time shall be fixed by, or in the manner provided in, the Bylaws of the Corporation. The election of directors of the Corporation need not be by written ballot.
7. To the fullest extent permitted by Delaware law, as the same exists or may hereafter be amended (but, in the case of any such amendment, only to the extent that such amendment permits the Corporation to provide broader indemnification rights than such law permitted the Corporation to provide prior to such amendment), a director of the Corporation shall not be personally liable to the Corporation or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director. If the DGCL is amended to authorize corporate action further eliminating or limiting the personal liability of directors, then the liability of a director of the Corporation shall be eliminated or limited to the fullest extent permitted by the DGCL, as so amended.
8. The Corporation may indemnify, to the fullest extent permitted by Delaware law, as the same exists or may hereafter be amended (but, in the case of any such amendment, only to the extent that such amendment permits the Corporation to provide broader indemnification rights than such law permitted the Corporation to provide prior to such amendment), any director or officer of the Corporation who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to or is otherwise involved in any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (a “**Proceeding**”), by reason of the fact that he or she is or was a director or an officer of the Corporation or is or was serving at the request of the Corporation as a director, officer, or trustee of another corporation or of a partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, including

service with respect to an employee benefit plan, whether the basis of such proceeding is alleged action in an official capacity as a director, officer or trustee, or in any other capacity while serving as a director, officer or trustee, against all expense, liability and loss (including attorneys' fees, judgments, fines, ERISA excise taxes or penalties and amounts paid in settlement) reasonably incurred or suffered by such indemnitee in connection therewith; provided, however, that, except as provided in this Article 8 with respect to Proceedings to enforce rights to advancement or indemnification, the Corporation shall indemnify, and shall advance expenses to, any such indemnitee in connection with a Proceeding (or part thereof) initiated by such indemnitee only if such Proceeding (or part thereof) was authorized by the Board of Directors of the Corporation.

9. The Corporation shall have the power to indemnify, to the fullest extent permitted by Delaware law, as the same exists or may hereafter be amended (but, in the case of any such amendment, only to the extent that such amendment permits the Corporation to provide broader indemnification rights than such law permitted the Corporation to provide prior to such amendment), any employee or agent of the Corporation who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to or is otherwise involved in any Proceeding by reason of the fact that he or she is or was a director or an officer of the Corporation or is or was serving at the request of the Corporation as a director, officer, or trustee of another corporation, or of a partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, including service with respect to an employee benefit plan, whether the basis of such proceeding is alleged action in an official capacity as a director, officer or trustee, or in any other capacity while serving as a director, officer or trustee, against all expense, liability and loss (including attorneys' fees, judgments, fines, ERISA excise taxes or penalties and amounts paid in settlement) reasonably incurred or suffered by such indemnitee in connection therewith; provided, however, that, except as provided in this Article 8 with respect to Proceedings to enforce rights to advancement or indemnification, the Corporation shall indemnify, and shall advance expenses to, any such indemnitee in connection with a Proceeding (or part thereof) initiated by such indemnitee only if such Proceeding (or part thereof) was authorized by the Board of Directors of the Corporation.
10. Neither any amendment nor any repeal of Articles 7 through 9, nor the adoption of any provision of the Corporation's Certificate of Incorporation that is inconsistent with Articles 7 through 9 as set forth herein, shall eliminate or reduce the effect of Articles 7 through 9 in respect of any matter occurring, or any cause of action, suit or proceeding accruing or arising or that, but for Articles 7 through 9, would accrue or arise, prior to such amendment, repeal or adoption of an inconsistent provision.
11. The Corporation elects not to be governed by Section 203 of the DGCL.
12. The name and mailing address of the incorporator are as follows:
Name: Leyla Gungor
Main Address: c/o Hogan Lovells US LLP
555 Thirteenth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20004

**BYLAWS
OF
CHERRY MERGER SUB INC.**

**ARTICLE I
OFFICES**

SECTION 1. Registered Office. The registered office of Cherry Merger Sub Inc. (the “**Corporation**”) shall be established and maintained at the office of Corporation Service Company, in the City of Wilmington, in the County of New Castle, in the State of Delaware, and said company shall be the registered agent of the Corporation in charge thereof.

SECTION 2. Other Offices. The Corporation may have other offices, either within or without the State of Delaware, at such place or places as the Board of Directors may from time to time appoint or the business of the Corporation may require.

**ARTICLE II
MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS**

SECTION 1. Annual Meetings. Annual meetings of stockholders for the election of directors, and for such other business as may be stated in the notice of the meeting, shall be held by means of remote communication or at such place, either within or without the State of Delaware, and at such time and date as the Board of Directors, by resolution, shall determine and as set forth in the notice of the meeting. In the event the Board of Directors fails to so determine the time, date or place of meeting, the annual meeting of stockholders shall be held at the offices of the Corporation on the last Tuesday of April at 10:30 a.m. local time.

If the date of the annual meeting shall fall upon a legal holiday, the meeting shall be held on the next business day. At each annual meeting, the stockholders entitled to vote shall elect a Board of Directors and they may transact such other corporate business as shall be stated in the notice of the meeting.

SECTION 2. Other Meetings. Meetings of stockholders for any purpose other than the election of directors may be held by means of remote communication or at such place, either within or without the State of Delaware, and at such time and date as shall be stated in the notice of meeting.

SECTION 3. Voting. Each stockholder entitled to vote in accordance with the terms of the Certificate of Incorporation and in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws shall be entitled to one vote, in person or by proxy, for each share of stock entitled to vote held by such stockholder, but no proxy shall be effective after three years from its date unless such proxy provides for a longer period. Upon the demand of any stockholder, the vote for directors and the vote upon any other question before the meeting shall be by ballot. All elections of directors shall be decided by plurality vote; all other questions shall be decided by majority vote except as otherwise provided by the Certificate of Incorporation or the laws of the State of Delaware.

SECTION 4. Quorum. Except as otherwise required by law, by the Certificate of Incorporation or by these Bylaws, the presence, in person or by proxy, of stockholders holding a majority of the stock of the Corporation entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum at all meetings of the stockholders. In case a quorum shall not be present at any meeting, a majority in interest of the stockholders entitled to vote thereat, present in person or by proxy, shall have the power to adjourn the meeting from time to time, without notice other than announcement at the meeting, until the requisite amount of stock entitled to vote shall be present. At any such adjourned meeting at which the requisite amount of stock entitled to vote shall be represented, any business may be transacted which might have been transacted at the meeting as originally noticed; provided, however, that only those stockholders entitled to vote at the meeting as originally noticed shall be entitled to vote at any adjournment or adjournments thereof.

SECTION 5. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the stockholders for any purpose or purposes may be called by the President or Secretary of the Corporation or by resolution of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 6. Notice of Meetings. Written notice, stating the place, date and time of the meeting, and the general nature of the business to be considered, shall be given to each stockholder entitled to vote thereat at his, her or its address as it appears on the records of the Corporation not less than ten nor more than sixty days before the date of the meeting. No business other than that stated in the notice shall be transacted at any meeting without the unanimous consent of all the stockholders entitled to vote thereat.

SECTION 7. Action Without Meeting. Unless otherwise provided by the Certificate of Incorporation, any action required to be taken at any annual or special meeting of stockholders, or any action which may be taken at any annual or special meeting, may be taken without a meeting, without prior notice and without a vote, if a consent in writing setting forth the action so taken shall be signed by the holders of outstanding stock having not less than the minimum number of votes that would be necessary to authorize or take such action at a meeting at which all shares entitled to vote thereon were present and voted. Prompt notice of the taking of the corporate action without a meeting by less than unanimous written consent shall be given to those stockholders who have not consented in writing.

ARTICLE III DIRECTORS

SECTION 1. Number and Term. The Board of Directors shall initially consist of three directors. Thereafter, the number of directors shall be determined by the Board of Directors. The directors shall be elected at the annual meeting of the stockholders and each director shall be elected to serve until his or her successor shall be elected and qualified. Directors need not be stockholders.

SECTION 2. Resignations. Any director may resign at any time. Such resignation shall be made in writing and shall take effect at the time specified therein, or if no time is specified, at the time of its receipt by the President or Secretary of the Corporation. The acceptance of a resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

SECTION 3. Vacancies. Any newly created directorships resulting from an increase in the number of directors and any vacancies on the Board of Directors resulting from death, resignation, retirement, disqualification, removal or other cause may be filled by a majority vote of the directors then in office, even if less than a quorum, or by the sole remaining director or by a majority vote of the stockholders of the Corporation.

SECTION 4. Removal. Any director may be removed, with or without cause, at any time by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least a majority of the votes that all the stockholders of the Corporation would be entitled to cast in any election of director.

SECTION 6. Powers. The Board of Directors shall exercise all of the powers of the Corporation, except such as are by law, by the Certificate of Incorporation or by these Bylaws conferred upon or reserved to the stockholders.

SECTION 7. Committees. The Board of Directors may designate one or more committees consisting of one or more directors of the Corporation. The Board of Directors may designate one or more directors as alternate members of any committee who may replace any absent or disqualified member at any meeting of the committee. In the absence or disqualification of any member of such committee or committees, the member or members thereof present at any meeting and not disqualified from voting, whether or not he, she or they constitute a quorum, may unanimously appoint another member of the Board of Directors to act at the meeting in the place of any such absent or disqualified member.

Any such committee, to the extent provided in the resolution of the Board of Directors creating such committee or in these Bylaws, shall have and may exercise all the powers and authority of the Board of Directors in the management of the business and affairs of the Corporation; provided, however, that no such committee shall have the power or authority to (a) amend the Certificate of Incorporation, (b) adopt an agreement of merger or consolidation, (c) recommend to the stockholders the sale, lease or exchange of all or substantially all of the Corporation's property and assets, (d) recommend to the stockholders a dissolution of the Corporation or a revocation of a dissolution or (e) amend the Bylaws of the Corporation.

SECTION 8. Meetings. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors may be held without notice at such places and times as shall be determined from time to time by resolution of the Board of Directors.

Special meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held whenever called by any director or the President, by remote communication or at such place (within or without the State of Delaware), date and time as may be specified in the respective notice or waiver of notice of such meetings. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called on (i) 24 hours' notice, if such notice is sent by email or other electronic transmission to each director or delivered to him or her personally or (ii) two business days' notice, if such notice is mailed to each director, addressed to him or her at his or her usual place of business or other designated address. Notice of any special meeting need not be given to any director who attends such meeting without protesting the lack of notice to him or her, prior to or at the commencement of such meeting, or to any director who submits a signed waiver of notice (including by email or other electronic transmission), whether before or after such meeting. Any business may be conducted at a special meeting of the Board of Directors.

Unless otherwise restricted by the Certificate of Incorporation or by these Bylaws, members of the Board of Directors, or any committee designated by the Board of Directors, may participate in a meeting of the Board of Directors, or any such committee, by means of telephone conference, video conference or similar communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can speak and hear each other and such participation in a meeting shall constitute presence in person at the meeting.

SECTION 9. Quorum. A majority of the directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. If at any meeting of the Board of Directors there shall be less than a quorum present, a majority of those present may adjourn the meeting from time to time until a quorum is present and no further notice thereof need be given other than by announcement at the meeting which shall be so adjourned.

SECTION 10. Compensation. Directors shall not receive any stated salary for their service as directors or as members of committees; provided, however, that, by resolution of the Board of Directors, a fixed fee and expenses of attendance may be allowed for attendance at each meeting. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to preclude any director from serving the Corporation in any other capacity, as an officer, agent or otherwise, and receiving compensation therefor.

SECTION 11. Action Without Meeting. Any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of the Board of Directors or of any committee thereof may be taken without a meeting if prior to such action a written consent thereto is signed by all members of the Board of Directors or of such committee, as the case may be, and such written consent is filed with the minutes of proceedings of the board or committee, as applicable.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS

SECTION 1. Officers. The officers of the Corporation shall be a President, one or more Vice Presidents, a Treasurer and a Secretary, all of whom shall be elected by the Board of Directors from time to time and who shall hold office until their successors are elected and qualified. In addition, the Board of Directors may elect a Chairman and one or more Assistant Secretaries and Assistant Treasurers as they may deem proper. None of the officers of the Corporation need be directors. The initial officers shall be elected concurrent with the adoption of these Bylaws. More than one office may be held by the same person.

SECTION 2. Resignations. Any officer may resign at any time. Such resignation shall be made in writing and shall take effect at the time specified therein, or if no time is specified, at the time of its receipt by the President, Secretary or Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Corporation. The acceptance of a resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

SECTION 3. Removal. Except as hereinafter provided, any officer or officers may be removed either for or without cause at any time by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 4. Other Officers and Agents. The Board of Directors may appoint such other officers and agents as it may deem advisable, who shall hold their offices for such terms and shall exercise such powers and perform such duties as shall be determined from time to time by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 5. Chairman. The Chairman of the Board of Directors, if one is elected, shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and he or she shall have and perform such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him or her by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 6. President. Subject to the provisions of these Bylaws and to the direction of the Board of Directors, the President shall be the chief executive officer of the Corporation and shall have the responsibility for the general management and control of the business and affairs of the Corporation. The President shall perform all duties and have all powers which are commonly incident to the office of president or which are delegated to him or her by the Board of Directors. The President shall perform the duties and exercise the powers of the Treasurer in the event of a vacancy in the office of the Treasurer, or in the event of either such person's absence or disability.

SECTION 7. Vice President. Each Vice President shall have such powers and duties as may be delegated to him or her by the Board of Directors. One (1) Vice President may be designated by the Board of Directors (or its designee) to perform the duties and exercise the powers of the President in the event of the President's absence or disability.

SECTION 8. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall have the responsibility for maintaining the financial records of the Corporation. He or she shall make such disbursements of the funds of the Corporation as are authorized and shall render from time to time an account of all such transactions and of the financial condition of the Corporation. The Treasurer shall also perform such other duties as the Board of Directors (or its designee) may from time to time

SECTION 9. Secretary. The Secretary shall issue all authorized notices for, and shall keep minutes of, all meetings of the stockholders and the Board of Directors. He or she shall have charge of the corporate books, shall have power to sign all stock certificates, and shall perform such other duties as the Board of Directors (or its designee) may from time to time prescribe.

ARTICLE V MISCELLANEOUS

SECTION 1. Uncertificated Shares. Shares of the Corporation's stock shall be issued in uncertificated form.

SECTION 2. Transfer of Shares. The shares of stock of the Corporation shall be transferable only upon its books by the holders thereof in person or by their duly authorized attorneys or legal representatives. A record shall be made of each transfer and, whenever a transfer shall be made for collateral security and not absolutely, it shall be so expressed in the entry of the transfer.

SECTION 3. Stockholders Record Date. In order that the Corporation may determine the stockholders entitled to notice of or to vote at any meeting of stockholders or any adjournment thereof, or to express consent to corporate action in writing without a meeting, or entitled to receive payment of any dividend or other distribution or allotment of any rights, or entitled to exercise any rights in respect of any change, conversion or exchange of stock or for the purpose of any other lawful action, the Board of Directors may fix, in advance, a record date, which shall not be more than sixty nor less than ten days before the date of such meeting or more than sixty days prior to any other action. A determination of stockholders of record entitled to notice of or to vote at a meeting of stockholders shall apply to any adjournment of the meeting; provided, however, that the Board of Directors may fix a new record date for the adjourned meeting.

SECTION 4. Dividends. Subject to the provisions of the Certificate of Incorporation, the Board of Directors may, out of funds legally available therefor, declare dividends upon the capital stock of the Corporation as and when they deem expedient. Before declaring any dividend, there may be set apart out of any funds of the Corporation available for dividends such sum or sums as the Board of Directors from time to time in their discretion deem proper for working capital or as a reserve fund to meet contingencies or for equalizing dividends or for such other purposes as the Board of Directors deem to be in the best interests of the Corporation.

SECTION 5. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the Corporation shall be determined by resolution of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 6. Checks. All checks, drafts or other orders for the payment of money, notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of the Corporation shall be signed by such officer or officers or agent or agents of the Corporation and in such manner as shall be determined from time to time by resolutions of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 7. Notice and Waiver of Notice. Whenever any notice is required by these Bylaws to be given, personal notice is not meant unless expressly so stated and any notice so required shall be deemed to be sufficient if given by depositing the same in the United States mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the person entitled thereto at his or her address as it appears on the records of the Corporation and such notice shall be deemed to have been given on the day of such mailing. Stockholders not entitled to vote shall not be entitled to receive notice of any meetings except as otherwise provided by statute.

Whenever any notice whatsoever is required to be given under the provisions of any law or under the provisions of the Certificate of Incorporation or these Bylaws, a waiver thereof in writing signed by the person or persons entitled to said notice, whether before or after the time stated therein, shall be deemed equivalent thereto.

ARTICLE VI INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

SECTION 1. Right to Indemnification. Each person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to or is otherwise involved in any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (hereinafter a “**proceeding**”), by reason of the fact that he or she is or was a director or an officer of the Corporation or is or was serving at the request of the Corporation as a director, officer, or trustee

of another corporation or of a partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, including service with respect to an employee benefit plan (hereinafter an “indemnitee”), whether the basis of such proceeding is alleged action in an official capacity as a director, officer or trustee, or in any other capacity while serving as a director, officer or trustee, shall be indemnified and held harmless by the Corporation to the fullest extent permitted by Delaware law, as the same exists or may hereafter be amended (but, in the case of any such amendment, only to the extent that such amendment permits the Corporation to provide broader indemnification rights than such law permitted the Corporation to provide prior to such amendment), against all expense, liability and loss (including attorneys’ fees, judgments, fines, ERISA excise taxes or penalties and amounts paid in settlement) reasonably incurred or suffered by such indemnitee in connection therewith; provided, however, that, except as provided in Section 3 of this ARTICLE VI with respect to proceedings to enforce rights to advancement or indemnification, the Corporation shall indemnify, and shall advance expenses to, any such indemnitee in connection with a proceeding (or part thereof) initiated by such indemnitee only if such proceeding (or part thereof) was authorized by the Board of Directors of the Corporation.

SECTION 2. Right to Advancement of Expenses. In addition to indemnification pursuant to Section 1 of this ARTICLE VI, the Corporation shall pay an indemnitee the expenses (including attorney’s fees) incurred in defending any such proceeding in advance of its final disposition (hereinafter an “advancement of expenses”); provided, however, that, if the Delaware General Corporation Law (“DGCL”) requires, an advancement of expenses incurred by an indemnitee in his or her capacity as a director or officer (and not in any other capacity in which service was or is rendered by such indemnitee, including, without limitation, service to an employee benefit plan) shall be made only upon receipt by the Corporation of an undertaking (hereinafter an “undertaking”), by or on behalf of such indemnitee, to repay all amounts so advanced if it shall ultimately be determined by final judicial decision from which there is no further right to appeal (hereinafter a “final adjudication”) that such indemnitee is not entitled to be indemnified for such expenses under Section 1 of this Article VI or otherwise.

SECTION 3. Right of Indemnitee to Bring Suit. If a claim under Section 1 or 2 of this ARTICLE VI is not paid in full by the Corporation within sixty days after a written claim has been received by the Corporation, except in the case of a claim for an advancement of expenses, in which case the applicable period shall be twenty days, the indemnitee may at any time thereafter bring suit against the Corporation to recover the unpaid amount of the claim. To the fullest extent permitted by law, if successful in whole or in part in any such suit, or in a suit brought by the Corporation to recover an advancement of expenses, the indemnitee shall be entitled to be paid also the expense of prosecuting or defending such suit. In (i) any suit brought by the indemnitee to enforce a right to indemnification hereunder (but not in a suit brought by the indemnitee to enforce a right to an advancement of expenses) it shall be a defense that, and (ii) in any suit brought by the Corporation to recover an advancement of expenses, the Corporation shall be entitled to recover such expenses upon a final adjudication that, the indemnitee has not met any applicable standard for indemnification set forth in the DGCL. Neither the failure of the Corporation (including its directors who are not parties to such action, a committee of such directors, independent legal counsel, or its stockholders) to have made a determination prior to the commencement of such suit that indemnification of the indemnitee is proper in the circumstances because the indemnitee has met the applicable standard of conduct set forth in the DGCL, nor an actual determination by the Corporation (including its directors who are not parties to such action,

a committee of such directors, independent legal counsel, or its stockholders) that the indemnitee has not met such applicable standard of conduct, shall create a presumption that the indemnitee has not met the applicable standard of conduct or, in the case of such a suit brought by the indemnitee, be a defense to such suit. In any suit brought by the indemnitee to enforce a right to indemnification or to an advancement of expenses hereunder, or brought by the Corporation to recover an advancement of expenses, the burden of proving that the indemnitee is not entitled to be indemnified, or to such advancement of expenses, under this ARTICLE VI or otherwise shall be on the Corporation.

SECTION 4. Non-Exclusivity of Rights. The rights to indemnification and to the advancement of expenses conferred in this ARTICLE VI shall not be exclusive of any other right which any person may have or hereafter acquire under any statute, the Corporation's Certificate of Incorporation, Bylaws, agreement, vote of stockholders or disinterested directors or otherwise.

SECTION 5. Insurance. The Corporation may purchase and maintain insurance, at its expense, to protect itself and any director, officer, employee or agent of the Corporation or any person serving at the request of the Corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, or of a partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against any expense, liability or loss, whether or not the Corporation would have the power to indemnify such person against such expense, liability or loss under the DGCL.

SECTION 6. Indemnification of Employees and Agents of the Corporation. The Corporation may, to the extent authorized from time to time by the Board of Directors, grant rights to indemnification and to the advancement of expenses to any employee or agent of the Corporation to the fullest extent of the provisions of this Article with respect to the indemnification and advancement of expenses of directors and officers of the Corporation.

SECTION 7. Nature of Rights. The rights conferred upon indemnitees in this ARTICLE VI shall be contract rights and such rights shall continue as to an indemnitee who has ceased to be a director, officer or trustee and shall inure to the benefit of the indemnitee's heirs, executors and administrators. Any amendment, alteration or repeal of this ARTICLE VIII that adversely affects any right of an indemnitee or its successors shall be prospective only and shall not limit or eliminate any such right with respect to any proceeding involving any occurrence or alleged occurrence of any action or omission to act that took place prior to such amendment, alteration or repeal.

ARTICLE VII AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be altered or repealed and Bylaws may be made (i) at any annual meeting of the stockholders (or at any special meeting thereof if notice of the proposed alteration or repeal or Bylaws to be made is contained in the notice of such special meeting) by the affirmative vote of a majority of the stock issued and outstanding and entitled to vote thereat or (ii) by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Board of Directors, at any regular meeting of the Board of Directors (or at any special meeting of the Board of Directors if notice of the proposed alteration or repeal or Bylaws to be made is contained in the notice of such special meeting) or (iii) by action of the stockholders or the Board of Directors without a meeting as permitted by the laws of the State of Delaware, the Certificate of Incorporation and these Bylaws.