

## HIGH COUNTRY BANCORP, INC. PRESIDENT AND CEO LARRY SMITH ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

October 15, 2021: After 43 ½ years of dedicated service to the organization, Mr. Larry Smith announced today that he is retiring from his positions as President and CEO of High Country Bancorp, Inc. (OTCQX: HCBC) (“the Company”) and of High Country Bank effective December 31, 2021. During the period to the date of his retirement, Mr. Smith will be transitioning responsibilities to Senior Vice President Michael Matthews who will assume the role of interim President and CEO after Mr. Smith’s retirement and until a permanent successor is named for those positions. Mr. Smith will also vacate his position on the Board of Directors upon his retirement.

High Country Bancorp, Inc. is the holding company for High Country Bank, which conducts business through its main office in Salida, Colorado and branch offices in Salida, Buena Vista, Canon City and Longmont, Colorado. At September 30, 2021, the Company had 1,033,897 shares of common stock issued and outstanding.

This report contains certain forward-looking statements pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties including changes in economic conditions in the Company’s market area, changes in policies by regulatory agencies, fluctuations in interest rates, loan demand in the Company’s market area and competition that could cause actual results to differ materially from historical earnings and those presently anticipated or projected. The Company wishes to caution readers not to place undue reliance on any such forward-looking statements, which reflect management’s analysis only as the date made. The Company does not undertake any obligation to publicly revise these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances that arise after the date of such statements.