

WENDEL STEPHEN T  
Form 4  
March 27, 2012

**FORM 4**

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
WENDEL STEPHEN T

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
ABRAXAS PETROLEUM CORP  
[AXAS]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
  
(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
18803 MEISNER DRIVE  
  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
03/08/2012

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
VP - Land and Contracts

SAN ANTONIO, TX 78258

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
\_\_\_\_ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V Amount (D) Price  |   |  |                                   |
| Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock  |                                      |  |                                |   | 161,342   | D  |                                   |
| Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock  | 03/22/2012                           |  | A                              | 2,713 A (2)   | 97,825  | I  | 401-K                             |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not**

SEC 1474 (9-02)

required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**  
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4) |                            |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V (A) (D)   | Date Exercisable Expiration Date                         | Title   | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Employee Stock Option                      | \$ 3.74  | 03/08/2012                           |  | A                              | 10,400  | 03/08/2013 <sup>(1)</sup> 03/08/2022                     | Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock                              | 10,400                     |
| Employee Stock Option                      | \$ 4.72  |                                      |  |                                |   | 03/15/2012 03/15/2021                                    | Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock                              | 30,000                     |
| Employee Stock Option                      | \$ 2.09  |                                      |  |                                |   | 03/16/2014 03/16/2020                                    | Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock                              | 60,000                     |
| Employee Stock Option                      | \$ 1.75  |                                      |  |                                |   | 10/05/2010 10/05/2019                                    | Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock                              | 66,000                     |
| Employee Stock Option                      | \$ 0.65  |                                      |  |                                |   | 11/22/2006 11/22/2016                                    | Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock                              | 17,000                     |
| Employee Stock Option                      | \$ 4.59  |                                      |  |                                |   | 09/13/2009 09/13/2019                                    | Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock                              | 50,000                     |
| Employee Stock Option                      | \$ 3.6   |                                      |  |                                |   | 08/28/2011 08/28/2017                                    | Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock                              | 15,000                     |
| Employee Stock                             | \$ 0.99  |                                      |  |                                |   | 03/17/2003 03/17/2019                                    | Abraxas Petroleum   | 50,000                     |

Option

Common  
Stock

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                   | Relationships |           |                         |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                 | Other |
| WENDEL STEPHEN T<br>18803 MEISNER DRIVE<br>SAN ANTONIO, TX 78258 |               |           | VP - Land and Contracts |       |

## Signatures

Stephen T.  
Wendel

03/27/2012

\_\_Signature of  
Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).
  - \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Options vest 25% per year beginning one year from grant date.
  - (2) Between January 1, 2012 and March 22, 2012, the reporting person acquired 2,713 shares of Abraxas Petroleum Common Stock under the Abraxas 401-K plan.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.