

HORNBECK OFFSHORE SERVICES INC /LA
Form DEF 14A
April 27, 2018

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
(Amendment No.)

Filed by the Registrant Filed by a Party other than the Registrant
Check the appropriate box:
 Preliminary Proxy Statement
 Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
 Definitive Proxy Statement
 Definitive Additional Materials
 Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

Hornbeck Offshore Services, Inc.
(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)
(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)
Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

No fee required.
 Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) 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 fee 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.
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:

Hornbeck Offshore Services, Inc.

April 27, 2018

Dear Fellow Stockholder:

You are cordially invited to attend the 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the "Annual Meeting") of Hornbeck Offshore Services, Inc. to be held in the Company's corporate training room located at 103 Northpark Boulevard, Covington, Louisiana 70433, on Thursday, June 21, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. Central Time. For those of you who cannot be present at the Annual Meeting, we urge that you participate by indicating your choices on the proxy card provided to you and completing and returning it at your earliest convenience. If you sign and return your proxy card without specifying your choices, it will be understood that you wish to have your shares voted in accordance with our Board of Directors' recommendations.

This booklet includes the Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders and the Proxy Statement, which contains details of the business to be conducted at the Annual Meeting. At the Annual Meeting, you will have an opportunity to discuss each item of business described in the Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders and Proxy Statement and to ask questions about our operations and the Company.

The Securities and Exchange Commission's proxy rules allow companies to provide access to our proxy materials over the Internet. As a result, we are mailing to most of our stockholders a Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials, or Notice, instead of a paper copy of this proxy statement, a proxy card and our 2017 Annual Report to Stockholders. The Notice contains instructions on how to access those documents over the Internet, as well as instructions on how to request a paper copy of our proxy materials. All stockholders who do not receive a Notice should receive a paper copy of the proxy materials by mail.

Our 2017 Annual Report to Stockholders, which includes our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017, which is not part of the Proxy Statement, provides additional information regarding our financial results for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017. A copy of our 2017 Annual Report to Stockholders is available at www.hornbeckoffshore.com or may be requested from our Corporate Secretary as described elsewhere in the Proxy Statement.

It is important that your shares are represented at the Annual Meeting, whether or not you are able to attend personally. Accordingly, please complete, sign, date and return the proxy card as promptly as possible in the envelope provided, or submit your proxy by Internet or phone, as described in the proxy card. If you do attend the Annual Meeting, you may withdraw your proxy and vote your shares in person.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, thank you for your cooperation and continued support.

Sincerely,

Todd M. Hornbeck
Chairman, President and
Chief Executive Officer

Hornbeck Offshore Services, Inc.

Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders

April 27, 2018

Notice is hereby given that the 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the "Annual Meeting") of Hornbeck Offshore Services, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), will be held on Thursday, June 21, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. Central Time, in the Company's corporate training room located at 103 Northpark Boulevard, Covington, Louisiana 70433, for the following purposes, as more fully described in the accompanying Proxy Statement:

1. to elect two Class II directors to serve on the Company's Board of Directors for terms of three years or until their successors are duly elected and qualified or until the earlier of their death, resignation or removal;
2. to ratify the reappointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company's independent registered public accountants and auditors for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018; and
3. to transact such other business as may properly come before the Annual Meeting and any postponement(s) or adjournment(s) thereof.

All stockholders are cordially invited to attend the Annual Meeting in person. However, to ensure that each stockholder's vote is counted at the Annual Meeting, stockholders should vote by following the Internet or phone voting instructions provided. If you have received a paper copy of the proxy card, you may also vote by completing and mailing the proxy card in the postage-paid, pre-addressed envelope provided for your convenience. Stockholders attending the Annual Meeting may vote in person even if they have previously submitted their proxy authorization. Only stockholders of record as of the close of business on April 23, 2018 are entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting and any postponement(s) or adjournment(s) thereof. A list of such stockholders shall be open to the examination of any stockholder of record at the Company's offices during normal business hours for a period of ten days prior to the Annual Meeting, and shall also be open for examination at the Annual Meeting and any postponement(s) or adjournment(s) thereof.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

Mark S. Myrtue

Treasurer and Corporate Secretary

Covington, Louisiana

April 27, 2018

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOUR SHARES OF COMMON STOCK BE REPRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF SHARES YOU HOLD. PLEASE COMPLETE, SIGN, DATE AND MAIL THE PROXY CARD IN THE ENVELOPE PROVIDED OR SUBMIT YOUR PROXY AUTHORIZATION BY INTERNET OR PHONE EVEN IF YOU INTEND TO BE PRESENT AT THE ANNUAL MEETING. SUBMITTING YOUR PROXY AUTHORIZATION WILL NOT LIMIT YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE IN PERSON OR TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING, BUT WILL ENSURE YOUR REPRESENTATION IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND. IF YOU HAVE SHARES OF COMMON STOCK IN MORE THAN ONE NAME, OR IF YOUR SHARES ARE REGISTERED IN MORE THAN ONE WAY, YOU MAY RECEIVE MORE THAN ONE COPY OF THE PROXY MATERIALS. IF SO, SIGN AND RETURN EACH OF THE PROXY CARDS YOU RECEIVE OR SUBMIT YOUR PROXY AUTHORIZATION BY INTERNET OR PHONE SO THAT ALL OF YOUR SHARES MAY BE VOTED. YOU MAY REVOKE YOUR PROXY AUTHORIZATION AT ANY TIME BEFORE ITS USE.

Hornbeck Offshore Services, Inc.
103 Northpark Boulevard, Suite 300
Covington, Louisiana 70433

PROXY STATEMENT

April 27, 2018

General Information

These proxy materials, together with the 2017 Annual Report to Stockholders, including financial statements, are being mailed to certain of our stockholders and will be made available on the Internet on or about April 27, 2018. Stockholders will have the ability to access the proxy materials on the website referred to in the Notice or request a printed set of the proxy materials to be sent to them by following the instructions in the Notice. Stockholders will also have the ability to inform us whether to send future proxy materials electronically by e-mail or in printed form by mail. If you choose to receive future proxy materials by e-mail, you will receive an e-mail next year with instructions containing a link to those materials and a link to the proxy voting site.

Your election to receive proxy materials by e-mail or printed form will remain in effect until you terminate it.

Choosing to receive future proxy materials by e-mail will allow us to provide you with the information you need in a more timely manner and save us the cost of printing and mailing documents to you.

This Proxy Statement is furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the Board of Directors (the "Board" or the "Board of Directors") of Hornbeck Offshore Services, Inc. ("we", "our", "us", "Hornbeck Offshore" or the "Company") for the 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on June 21, 2018, and any postponement(s) or adjournment(s) thereof (the "Annual Meeting"). This Proxy Statement and the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting and proxy card are first being made available to stockholders on or about April 27, 2018.

Record Date and Voting Securities

Stockholders of record as of the close of business on April 23, 2018 (the "Record Date") are entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting. There were 37,470,850 shares of our common stock issued and outstanding on the Record Date. Each outstanding share of common stock is entitled to one vote upon each matter properly submitted to a vote at the Annual Meeting.

Stockholders that are entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting may do so in person at the Annual Meeting, or by proxy submitted by mail or Internet as described on the notice and access card.

Abstentions and broker non-votes are counted for purposes of determining the presence or absence of a quorum for the transaction of business. Broker non-votes occur when a broker or other nominee does not have discretionary authority to vote the shares with respect to a particular matter and has not received voting instructions from the beneficial owner with respect to that matter.

The vote of a plurality of the shares entitled to vote and represented at a meeting at which a quorum is present is required for the election of directors. Thus, broker non-votes and abstentions will have no effect on the election of directors.

The affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of common stock entitled to vote and represented in person or by proxy at a meeting at which a quorum is present is required to approve the proposal relating to the ratification of the reappointment of independent registered public accountants and auditors. Shares represented at the Annual Meeting that abstain with respect to the proposals for binding votes will be considered in determining whether the requisite number of affirmative votes are cast on such matter. Accordingly, such abstentions will have the same effect as a vote against the ratification of the reappointment of independent registered accountants and auditors. Except for the purposes of determining whether a quorum is present, as discussed below, broker non-votes will not be treated as shares represented at the Annual Meeting and are not entitled to vote for purposes of such proposals, and therefore will have no effect.

Quorum

Except as may be otherwise required by law or the Company's Second Restated Certificate of Incorporation ("Certificate of Incorporation") or Fourth Restated Bylaws ("Bylaws"), as amended, the holders of a majority of the Company's shares of common stock entitled to vote and present in person or represented by proxy shall constitute a quorum at a meeting of the stockholders. The persons whom we appoint to act as inspectors of election will determine whether a quorum exists. Shares of the Company's common stock represented by properly executed and returned proxies will be treated as present. Shares of the Company's common stock present or represented at the Annual Meeting that abstain from voting or that are the subject of broker non-votes will be counted as present for purposes of determining a quorum.

How Your Proxy Will be Voted on Actions to be Taken

The Board of Directors is soliciting a proxy that will provide you with an opportunity to vote on all matters scheduled to come before the Annual Meeting, whether or not you attend in person.

Granting Your Proxy. If you properly execute and return a proxy in the enclosed form, your shares of common stock will be voted as you specify. If you make no specifications, your proxy representing our common stock will be voted: "FOR" each of the proposed director nominees; and

"FOR" the ratification of the reappointment of independent registered public accountants and auditors.

We expect no matters to be presented for action at the Annual Meeting other than the items described in this Proxy Statement. By signing and returning the proxy or submitting the proxy by Internet or phone, as described in the proxy card, however, you will give to the persons named as proxies therein discretionary voting authority with respect to any other matter that may properly come before the Annual Meeting, and they intend to vote on any such other matter in accordance with their best judgment.

Revoking Your Proxy. If you submit a proxy, you may subsequently revoke it or submit a revised proxy at any time before it is voted. You may also attend the Annual Meeting in person and vote by ballot, which would cancel any proxy that you previously submitted. If you wish to vote in person at the Annual Meeting but hold your stock in street name (that is, in the name of a broker, bank or other institution), then you must have a proxy from the broker, bank or institution in order to vote at the Annual Meeting.

Proxy Solicitation

We will pay all expenses of soliciting proxies for the Annual Meeting. In addition to solicitations by mail, arrangements have been made for brokers and nominees to send proxy materials to their principals, and we will reimburse them for their reasonable expenses. We may have our employees or other representatives (who will receive no additional compensation for their services) solicit proxies by telephone, telecopy, personal interview or other means. We may choose to engage a paid proxy solicitor to solicit proxies for the Annual Meeting, but have not yet done so.

Stockholder Proposals

If you want us to consider including a proposal in next year's proxy statement, you must deliver it in writing to the Corporate Secretary, Hornbeck Offshore Services, Inc., 103 Northpark Boulevard, Suite 300, Covington, Louisiana 70433 by no later than December 28, 2018.

If you want to present a proposal at the 2019 Annual Meeting of Stockholders in person but do not wish to have it included in our proxy statement, you must submit it in writing to our Corporate Secretary, at the above address, by March 22, 2019 to be considered timely, in accordance with the specific procedural requirements set forth in our Bylaws. If you would like a copy of these procedures, please contact our Corporate Secretary for a copy of our Bylaws.

Pursuant to rules promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, the designated proxies may use discretionary authority to vote with respect to stockholder proposals presented in person at the 2018 Annual Meeting if the stockholder making the proposal has not given the Company timely notice of such proposal.

Delivery of One Proxy Statement and Annual Report to a Single Household to Reduce Duplicate Mailings

Each year in connection with the annual meeting of stockholders, we are required to send to each stockholder of record a notice and access card to the proxy statement and annual report, and to arrange for a proxy statement and annual report to be provided to each beneficial stockholder whose shares are held by or in the name of a broker, bank, trust or other nominee. Because some stockholders hold shares of the Company's common stock in multiple accounts, this process results in duplicate mailings of notice and access cards to stockholders who share the same address. Stockholders may avoid receiving duplicate mailings and save us the cost of producing and mailing duplicate documents as follows:

Stockholders of Record. If your shares are registered in your own name and you are interested in consenting to the delivery of a single proxy statement or annual report, you may contact the Company by mail at 103 Northpark Boulevard, Suite 300, Covington, Louisiana 70433, by telephone at (985) 727-2000 or by e-mail at ir@hornbeckoffshore.com.

Beneficial Stockholders. If your shares are not registered in your own name, your broker, bank, trust or other nominee that holds your shares may have asked you to consent to the delivery of a single proxy statement or annual report if there are other Hornbeck Offshore stockholders who share an address with you. If you currently receive more than one proxy statement or annual report at your household, and would like to receive only one copy of each in the future, you should contact your nominee.

Right to Request Separate Copies. If you consent to the delivery of a single proxy statement and annual report but later decide that you would prefer to receive a separate copy of the proxy statement or annual report, as applicable, for each stockholder sharing your address, then please notify us or your nominee, as applicable, and we or they will promptly deliver such additional proxy statements or annual reports. If you wish to receive a separate copy of the proxy statement or annual report for each stockholder sharing your address in the future, you may contact the Company by mail at 103 Northpark Boulevard, Suite 300, Covington, Louisiana, 70433, by telephone at (985) 727-2000 or by e-mail at ir@hornbeckoffshore.com.

Proposal No. 1 – Election of Directors

Term of Directors

Our Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws provide that the Board of Directors is classified into three classes. These are designated as Class I directors, Class II directors and Class III directors, with members of each class holding office for staggered three-year terms. Vacancies on the Board resulting from death, resignation, disqualification, removal or other causes may be filled by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining directors then in office, even if less than a quorum of the Board is present, or by a sole remaining director.

There are currently two Class II directors, whose terms expire at the 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, three Class I directors, whose terms expire at the 2019 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, and three Class III directors, whose terms expire at the 2020 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, or, in all cases, until such date that their successors are duly elected and qualified or until their earlier death, resignation or removal in accordance with the Bylaws.

Director Nominees and Voting

The Board of Directors has nominated for election as directors the two persons named below. Our Bylaws require that our directors be stockholders of the Company. Each of the nominees for election as Class II directors is currently on the Board and has indicated his willingness to serve, if elected, but if any should be unable or unwilling to serve, proxies may be voted for a substitute nominee designated by the Board. If elected at the Annual Meeting, each of the two nominees will serve until the 2021 Annual Meeting of Stockholders (subject to the election and qualification of his successor and to his earlier death, resignation or removal). See "Nomination Process" below for additional information on the nomination of directors.

If any nominee should be unavailable for election as a result of an unexpected occurrence, the Board's proxies shall vote such shares for the election of such substitute nominee as the Board of Directors may propose. It is not anticipated that any nominee will be unable or unwilling to serve as a director if elected.

The name, age as of April 23, 2018, principal occupation, and other information highlighting the particular experience, qualifications, attributes and skills that support the conclusion of the nominating/corporate governance committee that such nominee for Class II director should serve as a director of the Company are set forth below.

Larry D. Hornbeck, 79, has served as a director since August 2001. An executive with over 38 years of experience in the offshore supply vessel business worldwide, Mr. Larry Hornbeck was the sole founder of the original Hornbeck Offshore Services, Inc., a NASDAQ-listed publicly traded offshore service vessel company with over 105 state-of-the-art offshore supply vessels operating worldwide. From its inception in 1981 until its merger with Tidewater Inc. (NYSE:TDW) in March 1996, Mr. Larry Hornbeck served as its Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer. Following the merger, Mr. Larry Hornbeck served as a director and a member of the audit committee of Tidewater Inc. from March 1996 until October 2000. From 1969 to 1980, Mr. Larry Hornbeck served as an officer in various capacities, culminating as Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Sealcraft Operators, Inc., a NASDAQ-listed publicly traded offshore service vessel company operating 29 geophysical and specialty service vessels worldwide. He served on the board of directors and as chairman of the compensation committee of Coastal Towing, an inland marine tug and barge company, from 1992 through 2003. Mr. Larry Hornbeck assisted in orchestrating the founding of the current Company and is the father of Mr. Todd M. Hornbeck, our Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer.

In addition to the leadership roles in which Mr. Larry Hornbeck has served or currently serves, he has extensive involvement in international and domestic marine industry associations. Mr. Larry Hornbeck helped form and served on the boards of several marine industry associations, including the Offshore Marine Service Association, or OMSA and the National Ocean Industries Association, or NOIA. He also served on the board of directors of the American Bureau of Shipping, or ABS, and the International Support Vessel Owners Association, or ISOA. The relationships Mr. Larry Hornbeck formed in these organizations and in his leadership roles in public companies continue to benefit the Company to this day.

Mr. Larry Hornbeck brings to the Board a deep understanding of the operations of a public company in the offshore service vessel industry. With his many years of experience as both Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of the original Hornbeck Offshore Services, Inc. and of Sealcraft Operators, Inc., Mr. Larry Hornbeck brings not only management expertise, but unique technical knowledge of offshore service vessels and their application, construction and operation. This, combined with his years of experience as one of our directors and his continued active involvement in the Company, make him an invaluable contributor to our Board.

Steven W. Krablin, 68, was appointed to our Board of Directors as a Class II Director in August 2005. Mr. Krablin was the President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of T-3 Energy Services Inc.

(NASDAQ:TRES), a publicly held company that designed, manufactured, repaired and serviced products used in the drilling and completion of new oil and gas wells, the workover of existing wells, and the production and transportation of oil and gas, from March 2009 until T-3 was acquired in January 2011. From April 2005 until joining T-3 Energy Services in March 2009, Mr. Krablin was a private investor. From January 1996 until April 2005, Mr. Krablin served as the Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of National Oilwell, Inc. (NYSE:NOI), a major manufacturer and distributor of oil and gas drilling equipment and related services for land and offshore drilling rigs. Mr. Krablin currently serves on the board of directors of Chart Industries, Inc. (NASDAQ:GTLS) and Precision Drilling Corporation (NYSE: PDS). Mr. Krablin is a retired certified public accountant.

As an experienced financial and operational leader with a variety of public companies in the energy industry, Mr. Krablin brings a broad understanding of business globally, which is particularly important for our company, as we continue to expand our operations in foreign countries. Mr. Krablin brings management experience, leadership capabilities, financial knowledge and business acumen to our Board. Drawing from that experience, he brings a unique perspective to the Board and the committees on which he serves.

The vote of a plurality of the shares entitled to vote and represented at a meeting at which a quorum is present is required for the election of directors. Nevertheless, the Board has adopted a policy that requires that any nominee for director in an uncontested election who receives a greater number of votes “withheld” from his or her election than votes “for” such election tender his or her resignation for consideration by the nominating/corporate governance committee. The nominating/corporate governance committee shall recommend to the Board whether or not it should accept the

tendered resignation. The Company will publicly disclose the Board's decision within 90 days of the certification of the election results.

The Board of Directors unanimously recommends that the stockholders vote "FOR" the election of each of the nominees.

Incumbent Class I Directors

The name, age as of April 23, 2018, principal occupation, and other information highlighting the particular experience, qualifications, attributes and skills concerning each Class I director are set forth below.

Bruce W. Hunt, 60, has served as one of our directors since August 1997 and was appointed lead independent director in May 2005. He has been President of Petrol Marine Corporation since 1988 and President and Director of Petro-Hunt, L.L.C. since 1997, each of which is an energy-related company. Mr. Hunt served as a director of the original Hornbeck Offshore Services, Inc., a NASDAQ-listed publicly traded offshore service vessel company, from November 1992 to March 1996, when it merged with Tidewater Inc. (NYSE:TDW). In April 2012, Mr. Hunt was named as a director of ViewPoint Financial Group, Inc. (NASDAQ: VCFG), which subsequently became Legacy Texas Financial Group, Inc. (NASDAQ: LTXB).

Mr. Hunt is an experienced business leader with the skills and attributes necessary to be our lead independent director. As a director of ours for more than 20 years and as a director of the original Hornbeck Offshore Services, Inc., he has gained a deep understanding of our direction and goals and the Board's ability to oversee our success. His experience in the energy industry, including with offshore service vessels, further augments his range of knowledge and insight relevant to our operations. Mr. Hunt is affiliated with the William Herbert Hunt Trust Estate, which has been one of our largest stockholders since August 1997. As such, Mr. Hunt is uniquely familiar with the Company since its inception and provides the perspective of a long-term significant stockholder. Mr. Hunt serves as the chairman of our nominating/corporate governance committee.

Kevin O. Meyers, Ph.D., 64, was appointed to our Board of Directors as a Class I Director in June 2011. Dr. Meyers is a consultant with over 35 years of experience in the oil and gas industry. He served as the Senior Vice President, Exploration and Production—Americas of ConocoPhillips (NYSE:COP), a publicly traded oil and gas company, from May 2009 until his retirement in December 2010. Before assuming that role, Dr. Meyers had been President of ConocoPhillips Canada from December 2006 until May 2009. From October 2004 to November 2006, he served as President of ConocoPhillips' Russian and Caspian Region, based in Moscow, where he was responsible for exploration and production activities in the former Soviet Union and was the lead executive in Russia for the COP LUKOIL strategic alliance. Prior to moving to Russia, Dr. Meyers was President of ConocoPhillips Alaska, a position he had held since Conoco Inc. and Phillips Petroleum Company merged in 2002. Prior to the merger, Dr. Meyers had held a similar position with Phillips Petroleum Company. He held that position following the acquisition by Phillips Petroleum Company of certain Alaskan assets of the Atlantic Richfield Company, or ARCO. Dr. Meyers was President of ARCO Alaska from 1998 to 2000 and served in various other positions with ARCO from 1980 through 1998. Dr. Meyers also currently serves on the board of directors of Precision Drilling Corporation (NYSE: PDS), Denbury Resources Inc. (NYSE: DNR) and Hess Corporation (NYSE: HES). Dr. Meyers holds a doctorate in chemical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and bachelor's degrees in chemistry and mathematics from Capital University in Ohio.

Dr. Meyers brings to the Board significant major oil company executive experience and critical insights into the issues facing the global oil and gas industry from the perspective of our customers. This experience and perspective allows Dr. Meyers to make significant contributions as a critical member of the Board and the committees on which he serves.

Bernie W. Stewart, 73, has served as one of our directors since November 2001 and served as the Chairman of our Board from February 2002 to May 2005. Mr. Stewart was Senior Vice President, Operations of R&B Falcon Corporation (NYSE:FLC), a contract drilling company, and President of R&B Falcon Drilling U.S., its domestic operating subsidiary, from May 1999 until R&B Falcon Corporation merged with Transocean Sedco Forex Inc. (NYSE:RIG) in January 2001. Between April 1996 and May 1999, he served as Chief Operating Officer of R&B Falcon Holdings, Inc. and as its President from January 1998 until May 1999. From 1993 until 1996, he was Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the original Hornbeck Offshore Services, Inc., a NASDAQ-listed publicly traded offshore service vessel company, where he was responsible for overall supervision of the company's operations. From 1986 until 1993, he was President of Western Oceanics, Inc., an offshore drilling contractor. Since leaving R&B Falcon Corporation upon its merger with Transocean Sedco Forex, Mr. Stewart has been an independent business consultant.

Mr. Stewart's more than 25 years of executive experience in the offshore energy industry brings to the Board critical insights into the operational requirements of a public offshore service vessel company. In addition, his experience as our former Chairman, one of our directors, and as an officer of the original Hornbeck Offshore Services, Inc., gives him a deep understanding of our operations and of the important role of the Board. Mr. Stewart serves as the chairman of our compensation committee.

Incumbent Class III Directors

The name, age as of April 23, 2018, principal occupation, and other information highlighting the particular experience, qualifications, attributes and skills concerning each Class III director are set forth below.

Todd M. Hornbeck, 49, has served as our President and as a director since he co-founded the Company in June 1997. Until February 2002, he also served as Chief Operating Officer. In February 2002, Mr. Todd Hornbeck was appointed Chief Executive Officer and in May 2005, he was appointed Chairman of the Board of Directors. Mr. Todd Hornbeck was employed by the original Hornbeck Offshore Services, Inc., a NASDAQ-listed publicly traded offshore service vessel company with over 105 offshore supply vessels operating worldwide, from 1991 to 1996, serving in various positions relating to business strategy and development. Following its merger with Tidewater Inc. (NYSE:TDW) in March 1996, he accepted a position as Marketing Director-Gulf of Mexico with Tidewater, where his responsibilities included managing relationships and overall business development in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico region. He remained with Tidewater until our formation. Mr. Todd Hornbeck currently serves on the board of directors of ISOA, OMSA and NOIA. Mr. Todd Hornbeck is the son of Mr. Larry D. Hornbeck, one of our directors.

As our co-founder, Mr. Todd Hornbeck brings his vision and goals for the Company to the Board. Under his leadership, we have expanded from a small private company to a large, global provider of technologically advanced offshore service vessels. Mr. Todd Hornbeck's extensive experience in the offshore service vessel industry, and over 20 years leading our company, positions him well to serve as our Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer. See also the section entitled "Board Structure, Risk Oversight, Committee Composition and Meetings" below.

Patricia B. Melcher, 58, has served as one of our directors since October 2002. She currently serves as Managing Partner of EIV Capital, LLC and Chief Executive Officer of EIV Capital Management Co., LLC, which manage EIV Capital Fund II, LP, EIV Capital Fund III, LP, EIV Capital Fund III-A, LP (together, EIV Funds II and III) and EIV Capital Fund, LP, respectively, private equity funds focused on making investments in the energy industry. She assumed her duties with EIV Capital, LLC upon the formation of EIV Capital Fund II, LP in July 2013 and joined the management of EIV Capital Management Co., LLC in April 2009 being named Chief Executive Officer in August 2009. Pursuant to her duties with respect to EIV Capital Fund, LP and EIV Capital Funds II and III, Ms. Melcher, from time to time, serves as a director of certain of its portfolio investment companies. From November 2004 through August 2009, she co-founded and managed Go Appetit Foods, LLC, a privately-owned company that developed and distributed innovative all-natural foods and beverages. From 1997 to 2006, Ms. Melcher served as the President of Allegro Capital Management, Inc., a privately-owned investment company focused on private equity investments in, and consulting to, energy-related companies. From 1989 to 1994, she worked for SCF Partners, L.P., an investment fund sponsor specializing in private equity investments in oilfield service companies. From 1986 to 1989, Ms. Melcher worked for Simmons & Company International, or Simmons, one of the largest investment banks providing services exclusively to the energy industry.

With over 31 years of experience as a private equity investor, consultant and investment banker, Ms. Melcher brings to the Board significant experience in evaluating the financial and operating performance of companies and assessing risks in the energy industry. In addition, Ms. Melcher's past and current experience serving on the boards of for-profit as well as not-for-profit companies gives her a broad understanding of the financial needs and strategic priorities of companies in diverse industries, including oilfield services. Ms. Melcher's management and energy finance experience make her particularly well-suited to be a member of our Board and a member and chairperson of our audit committee.

Nicholas L. Swyka, Jr., 74, was appointed to our Board of Directors as a Class III Director in February 2012. Mr. Swyka has over 30 years of energy related investment banking experience. From September 1999 until his retirement in June 2011, he served as Vice Chairman of Simmons. During this time, Mr. Swyka also served on Simmons' Executive Management, Compensation and Underwriting Committees. From January 1987 until September 1999, he served as Managing Director and Co-Head of Investment Banking for Simmons. During that time, he functioned as senior team leader advising the Boards of Directors of both public and private energy companies on a significant number of energy industry transactions, including mergers, acquisitions and divestitures, as well as capital market transactions. Mr. Swyka served as an Advisory Director to Simmons until its acquisition by Piper Jaffray & Co. in February 2016. Mr. Swyka currently serves on the Board of Directors and is chairman of the audit committee of Fairway Energy, LP. Fairway is an energy storage and transportation company headquartered in Houston, Texas.

Mr. Swyka has served as an Advisory Director to the University of Texas Marine Science Institute and NOIA. He is also past President and Chairman and currently serves on the Executive Committee of the Houston Ballet Foundation. Prior to joining Simmons, Mr. Swyka spent seven years with a major accounting firm, leaving as a senior manager, where he supervised the audits of private and public companies.

Mr. Swyka brings to our Board significant industry and capital markets experience, critical insights into the issues facing the global oil and gas industry, a proven track record of providing financial advisory services to the growing energy service sector and a personal knowledge, from having served as our financial advisor, of the history and the accomplishments of the original Hornbeck Offshore Services, Inc. and of our Company since its inception.

Board Structure, Risk Oversight, Committee Composition and Meetings

Our Board of Directors is comprised of eight members, including the Chairman, divided into three classes as described under “Term of Directors” above. Other than Mr. Todd Hornbeck, who serves as our President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman, there are no other members of the Company’s management that serve on the Board. Six of the eight Board members are independent as contemplated under Commission and NYSE requirements. We have three committees of the Board—audit, compensation and nominating/corporate governance—that are comprised solely of independent directors, including their chairs. The Board may also establish other committees from time to time as necessary to facilitate the management of the business and affairs of the Company and to comply with the corporate governance rules of the NYSE. The Company has a lead independent director who chairs and oversees the executive sessions of the non-management directors (generally meeting at least quarterly) and independent directors (meeting at least annually). Of the seven non-management members of the Board, four have served as executive officers of public companies (two of whom have served in the combined positions of chairman and chief executive officer). All of our non-management directors, including the six independent directors, have significant experience with Board processes, and specifically their role and responsibilities in oversight on behalf of the Company’s stockholders. For additional information regarding our directors’ backgrounds, see “Term of Directors” above. The existence and leadership of our lead independent director, the committee chairs and the committee members, all being independent directors, and the six to two independent majority of the Board provides for substantial independent oversight of the Company.

In May 2005, the Board unanimously elected Mr. Todd Hornbeck as Chairman of the Board of Directors. Mr. Todd Hornbeck was the principal catalyst and visionary behind the creation of the Company as primarily a new generation offshore service vessel business and has been instrumental in the growth and development of the Company. He has served the Company as President since its founding in June 1997 and as Chief Executive Officer since February 2002. As President and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Todd Hornbeck is responsible for the operation of the Company and the execution of the Company’s strategy. Over the years, he has demonstrated excellent executive management skills and has led the Company from a “greenfield” start-up to its present status as a publicly-held, NYSE-listed Company with 62 new generation OSVs and eight MPSVs with a net book value of \$2.5 billion as of December 31, 2017. Under its fifth OSV newbuild program, the Company has contracted for the delivery of 19 new generation OSVs and five MPSVs. As of April 27, 2018, the Company has placed 22 of such vessels in service under this program. The remaining two are expected to be delivered in 2019. Given the growth of the Company, and the importance of the performance of the Company and the execution of corporate strategy in the Board’s considerations and duties, the Board believes that Mr. Todd Hornbeck is the person best qualified to serve as the Chairman of the Board.

Additionally, it is the view of our Board that having Mr. Todd Hornbeck serve in the combined positions of President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board is in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders. It signals to our employees, suppliers, customers and the investment community that a single person is responsible for providing direction in the management of the Company’s operations and growth initiatives. Such a single leader helps avoid the potential for duplication of efforts, for confusing or conflicting senses of direction or for personality conflicts. Moreover, the structure of our Board and committees, the level of independence represented on each, the experience of our directors and our lead independent director balance and complement the combined offices of Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer. The Board maintains the authority to modify this structure if and when the Board believes such modification would be in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders.

In addition to his leadership skills, the Company has benefited and continues to benefit from Mr. Todd Hornbeck’s experience with the original Hornbeck Offshore Services, Inc., a NASDAQ-listed company founded by his father, Mr. Larry Hornbeck, in 1981. The current Company carries the Hornbeck family name, uses the same horsehead logo and trademarks as the prior company and is able to benefit from long-standing working relationships with customers, vendors and Wall Street analysts, many of whom also had relationships with Messrs. Todd and Larry Hornbeck at the

prior public company. Unlike other companies that are led by non-founding managers, the Company benefits to a substantial extent from the history, entrepreneurial spirit, industry expertise and leadership of its founder. The Company's leadership structure contributes to the manner in which the Board oversees risk by providing a high level of experience and independence to the process of risk oversight. The Board's oversight of risk is centered principally on risks associated with the Company's strategic plans, growth initiatives and financial results as well as risks attendant to the legal and regulatory environment in which the Company operates both domestically and abroad. The Board performs

7

this oversight role by receiving and discussing reports each quarter from executive management, including major risks confronting the Company. A specific report concerning legal compliance is given each quarter in which the Board is advised of the approach to managing any known material legal risks being faced by the Company. While operational risk management is overseen by executive management, the Board also receives periodic reports, including discussions of the management of operating risks and the strategies employed by the Company in order to mitigate those risks, such as the placement of insurance and contracting strategies. The audit committee enhances the Board's oversight of risk management by regularly assessing the overall corporate "tone" for quality financial reporting and ethical behavior. Each quarter, the audit committee discusses with executive management, the internal auditors and the independent auditor the adequacy and effectiveness of the Company's accounting and financial controls and, where appropriate, the Company's policies and procedures that impact business risks and certain of the Company's compliance programs. The Company's compensation policies and practices are described in the "Compensation Discussion and Analysis" section of this Proxy Statement. After reviewing the compensation policies and practices of the Company, the Board concluded that such policies and practices do not create risks that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company.

The Board has determined that Ms. Patricia B. Melcher and Messrs. Bruce W. Hunt, Kevin O. Meyers, Steven W. Krablin, Bernie W. Stewart and Nicholas L. Swyka, Jr. are "independent" for purposes of Section 303A of the NYSE Listed Company Manual. The Board based its determinations of independence primarily on a review of the responses our directors provided to questions regarding employment and compensation history, affiliations and family and other relationships. No material relationships between the Company and any independent directors were discerned. During 2017, our Board of Directors held five meetings and took action by unanimous written consent three times. All of the directors attended at least 75% of the aggregate number of meetings of the Board of Directors and of each committee of the Board on which they served. All directors are expected to attend Annual Meetings, and all of our directors except Bruce Hunt attended our last Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

The Company has established Corporate Governance Guidelines, which may be found on the Corporate Governance page of the Company's website, www.hornbeckoffshore.com. The Corporate Governance Guidelines include the definition of independence used by the Company to determine whether its directors and nominees for directors are independent, which are the same qualifications prescribed under the NYSE Listing Standards. Pursuant to the Company's Corporate Governance Guidelines, our non-management directors are required to meet in separate sessions without management on a regularly scheduled basis, but no less than four times a year. Generally, these meetings occur as an executive session without the management director in attendance in conjunction with regularly scheduled meetings of the Board throughout the year. If the non-management directors include directors that are not independent directors (as determined by our Board), the independent directors are required to meet in at least one separate session annually that includes only the independent directors. Because the Chairman of the Board is also a member of management, the non-management directors' and independent directors' separate sessions are presided over by the Lead Independent Director or, in his absence, by an independent director elected by a majority of the independent directors. Committees of the Board of Directors

Audit Committee

The Board of Directors has established an audit committee currently comprised of Ms. Melcher and Messrs. Hunt, Krablin, Stewart and Swyka with Ms. Melcher as Chair. The audit committee operates under a written charter adopted by the Board of Directors. The Board has determined that each director currently serving on the audit committee is independent for purposes of Section 10A(m)(3) of the Exchange Act, and Section 303A.07 of the NYSE Listed Company Manual and satisfies the financial literacy requirements of the NYSE. The Board has also determined that each of Ms. Melcher and Messrs. Krablin and Swyka qualifies as an "audit committee financial expert" as defined in Item 407(d)(5)(ii) of Regulation S-K of the Exchange Act. Ms. Melcher and Messrs. Krablin and Swyka are financially literate and have accounting or related financial management expertise, as described in their biographical information under "Director Nominees and Voting" above. The audit committee met five times during 2017 and took action by unanimous written consent once in 2017.

In addition to certain duties prescribed by applicable law, the audit committee is charged, under its written charter, to select and engage the independent public accountants to audit our annual financial statements, subject to stockholder

ratification. The audit committee also establishes the scope of, and oversees the annual audit and approves any other services provided by public accounting firms. Furthermore, the audit committee provides assistance to the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibility to the stockholders, potential stockholders, the investment community and others relating to the integrity of our financial statements, our compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, the independent auditor's qualifications and independence, the performance of our internal audit function and independent

auditor, and overseeing our system of disclosure controls and procedures and system of internal controls regarding finance, accounting, legal compliance and ethics that management and the Board have established. In doing so, it is the responsibility of the audit committee to maintain free and open communication among the audit committee, our independent auditors, the internal audit function and management of the Company. See "Audit Committee Report" below for further information on the functions of the audit committee.

Compensation Committee

The Board of Directors has established a compensation committee currently comprised of Messrs. Meyers, Stewart and Swyka, with Mr. Stewart as Chair. The compensation committee operates under a written charter adopted by the Board of Directors. In addition to certain duties prescribed by applicable law, the compensation committee is charged, under its written charter, to address all forms of compensation of the Company's executive officers and directors. The compensation committee approves and monitors annual executive and director compensation for each year and as part of the Company's annual budget process. The compensation committee has sole authority to retain compensation consultants and may not form or delegate authority to subcommittees without Board approval. See "Compensation Discussion and Analysis" below for additional information on the Company's procedures for consideration and determination of executive and director compensation.

Our Board has determined that each member of the compensation committee meets the independence requirements of the NYSE. The compensation committee met seven times during 2017 and took action by unanimous written consent twice in 2017.

Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee

Our Board of Directors has also established a nominating/corporate governance committee, currently comprised of Messrs. Hunt, Krablin and Stewart, with Mr. Hunt as Chair. In addition to certain duties prescribed by NYSE listing requirements, the committee is charged, under its written charter, to develop, review and recommend to the Board a set of corporate governance principles for the Company, and to identify, review and recommend to the Board possible candidates for Board membership.

Our Board has determined that each member of the nominating/corporate governance committee meets the independence requirements of the NYSE. The nominating/corporate governance committee met twice during 2017 and did not act by unanimous written consent in 2017.

Availability of Certain Committee Charters and Other Information

The charters for our audit, compensation and nominating/corporate governance committees, as well as our Corporate Governance Guidelines, Procedures for Communication with Directors, Executive Officer Code of Conduct and Code of Business Conduct and Ethics for Members of the Board of Directors, can all be found, free of charge, on the Corporate Governance page of the Company's website, www.hornbeckoffshore.com. The code of conduct, titled "Navigating with Integrity," is applicable to all employees, including Executive Officers and, accordingly, to our Chief Executive Officer and to our Chief Financial Officer, who is our principal financial and accounting officer. We intend to disclose any changes to or waivers from the provisions of "Navigating with Integrity" or our Executive Officer Code of Conduct that would otherwise be required to be disclosed under Item 5.05 of a Form 8-K on our website. We will also provide printed copies of these materials to any stockholder or other interested person upon request to Hornbeck Offshore Services, Inc., Attn: Samuel A. Giberga, General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer, 103 Northpark Boulevard, Suite 300, Covington, Louisiana 70433. The information on our website is not, and shall not be deemed to be, a part of this report or incorporated into this or any other filings we make with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the Commission.

We also make available on our website, free of charge, access to our Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K, Proxy Statements, and any amendments to those reports and statements, as well as other documents that we file with or furnish to the Commission pursuant to Sections 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, as soon as reasonably practicable after such documents are filed with, or furnished to, the Commission.

Nomination Process

It is our Board of Director's responsibility to nominate members for election or re-election to the Board and for filling vacancies on the Board that may occur between annual meetings of stockholders. The nominating/corporate

governance committee assists the Board by identifying and reviewing potential candidates for Board membership consistent with criteria approved by the Board. The nominating/corporate governance committee also annually recommends qualified

9

candidates (which may include existing directors) for approval by the Board of a slate of nominees to be proposed for election or re-election to the Board at the annual meeting of stockholders. Having considered the qualifications of these individuals, in February 2018, the nominating/corporate governance committee approved the Class II director candidates, and recommended to the Board of Directors the re-election of the two candidates nominated above.

As provided in the Company's Bylaws, the Board is authorized to nominate and elect a new director when a vacancy occurs between annual meetings of stockholders. In the event of a vacancy on the Board between annual meetings of the Company's stockholders, the Board may request that the nominating/corporate governance committee identify, review and recommend qualified candidates for Board membership for Board consideration to fill such vacancies, if the Board determines that such vacancies will be filled. The Company's Bylaws require at least four directors and allow for up to nine directors. At present, the Company has eight directors. The Board is permitted by the Bylaws to create a new directorship upon the affirmative vote of 66 ²/₃% of the directors then in office and to fill existing or newly created directorship slots by a majority vote of the directors then in office. However, the number may be decreased below four or increased above nine only by the vote of holders of at least 80% of the shares entitled to vote thereon or the unanimous vote of the Board of Directors.

When formulating its recommendations for potential Board nominees, the nominating/corporate governance committee seeks and considers advice and recommendations from management, other members of the Board and may seek or consider advice and recommendations from consultants, outside counsel, accountants or other advisors as the nominating/corporate governance committee or the Board may deem appropriate.

Board membership criteria, which are disclosed in the Company's Corporate Governance Guidelines on the Corporate Governance page of the Company's website, www.hornbeckoffshore.com, are determined by the Board, with input from the nominating/corporate governance committee. The Board is responsible for periodically determining the appropriate skills, perspectives, experiences and characteristics required of Board candidates, taking into account the Company's needs and current make-up of the Board. This assessment should include appropriate knowledge, experience and skills in areas deemed critical to understanding the Company and its business; personal characteristics, such as integrity and judgment; and the candidate's commitments to the boards of other companies. While the Board does not have a formal policy with respect to diversity of potential Board nominees, the nominating/corporate governance committee considers the impact a potential Board nominee would have in terms of increasing the diversity of the Board with respect to professional experience, background, viewpoints, skills and areas of expertise. The resulting diversity of the Board allows each member of the Board an opportunity to provide specific input to Board decisions in his or her respective area of expertise. Each Board member is expected to ensure that other existing and planned future commitments do not materially interfere with the member's service as a director and that he or she devotes the time necessary to discharge his or her duties as a director. The Board believes the qualification guidelines included as Exhibit A to the Company's Corporate Governance Guidelines are currently appropriate, but it may change these guidelines as the Company's and the Board's needs warrant.

Nominations for Directors

The nominating/corporate governance committee will consider candidates for director nominees that are recommended by stockholders of the Company in the same manner as Board recommended nominees, in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Bylaws. Any such nominations should be submitted to the Board of Directors, care of the Corporate Secretary, Hornbeck Offshore Services, Inc., 103 Northpark Boulevard, Suite 300, Covington, Louisiana 70433 and be accompanied by the following information:

• appropriate biographical information, a statement as to the qualifications of the nominee and any other information relating to such nominee that is required to be disclosed pursuant to Regulation 14A under the Exchange Act (including such person's written consent to being named in the proxy statement as a nominee and to serving as a director if elected); and

• the name(s) and address(es) of the stockholder(s) making the nomination and the number of shares of the Company's common stock that are owned beneficially and of record by such stockholder(s).

The written recommendation should be submitted within the time frame described under the caption "Stockholder Proposals" above.

Communications with the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors, of which a majority are independent, has unanimously approved a process for stockholders, or other interested persons, to communicate with the Board of Directors. This process is located on the Corporate

Governance page of the Company's website, www.hornbeckoffshore.com. The relevant document is titled "Procedures for Communication with Directors."

In addition, stockholders, or other interested persons, wishing to communicate with our Board of Directors for anonymous complaints about accounting, internal controls and auditing issues may call the Company's toll-free Ethics Helpline at 1-800-506-6374 as more particularly described on the Compliance link found on the Company's website, www.hornbeckoffshore.com. Online reports may also be made anonymously by accessing our ethics reporting procedure available at www.hoscompliance.com. Our audit committee monitors these calls and online reports, if any. All calls are documented, and those reports that are deemed to be substantive will be passed on to the Board. Stockholders, or other interested persons, calling the hotline should provide a sufficiently detailed description of the nature of the matter that the person wishes to communicate with the Board, as well as a name, telephone number, email address, or other contact information so that the Company can either respond to the communication or obtain additional information about the matter.

Proposal No. 2 – Selection and Ratification of the Independent Registered Public Accountants and Auditors

Our audit committee and Board of Directors seek stockholder ratification of the reappointment of Ernst & Young LLP to act as the independent registered public accountants and auditors of our consolidated financial statements for the 2018 fiscal year. If the stockholders do not ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP, the audit committee will reconsider this appointment. Representatives of Ernst & Young LLP are expected to be present at the Annual Meeting to respond to appropriate questions, and those representatives will also have an opportunity to make a statement if they desire to do so.

The affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of common stock entitled to vote and represented in person or by proxy at a meeting at which a quorum is present is required to ratify the selection of the independent auditors.

The Board of Directors unanimously recommends that the stockholders vote "FOR" the ratification of the reappointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company's independent registered public accountants and auditors for fiscal year 2018.

Independent Auditors and Fees

Ernst & Young LLP, certified public accountants, began serving as the Company's independent auditors in 2002. The audit committee approved the reappointment of Ernst & Young LLP as independent registered public accountants and auditors for the 2018 fiscal year, subject to ratification by the stockholders.

The following table presents fees for professional audit services rendered by Ernst & Young LLP for the audit of the Company's annual financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, and fees billed for other services rendered by Ernst & Young LLP during those periods.