SYKES ENTERPRISES INC Form DEF 14A April 17, 2015 Table of Contents

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 þ

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))
- þ Definitive Proxy Statement
- " Definitive Additional Materials
- " Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

Sykes Enterprises, Incorporated

(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):

þ 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:

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(1) Amount Previously Paid: _____

(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

- (3) Filing Party:
- (4) Date Filed:

SYKES ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED

April 15, 2015

Dear Shareholder:

I am pleased to invite you to attend the Sykes Enterprises, Incorporated 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders. The meeting will be held at the offices of the Tampa Bay Wave, 400 North Ashley Drive, 2nd Floor, Tampa, Florida, 33602 on Tuesday, May 19, 2015, at 8:00 a.m., Eastern Daylight Savings Time. In the following pages, you will find the Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders as well as a proxy statement which describes the items of business to be conducted at the meeting.

Your vote is important, so to assure your representation at the Annual Meeting, please vote on the matters described in this proxy statement by completing the enclosed proxy card and mailing it promptly in the enclosed envelope. If your shares are held in street name by a brokerage firm, bank or other nominee, the nominee will supply you with a proxy card to be returned to it. It is important that you return the proxy card as quickly as possible so that the nominee may vote your shares. If your shares are held in street name by a nominee, you may not vote those shares in person at the Annual Meeting unless you obtain a power of attorney or legal proxy from that nominee authorizing you to vote the shares, and you present that power of attorney or proxy at the Annual Meeting.

Sincerely,

James T. Holder Secretary

Important notice regarding the availability of proxy materials

for the Shareholders Meeting To Be Held On May 19, 2015

This proxy statement and our 2014 Annual Report to Shareholders are available at:

https://materials.proxyvote.com/871237

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SYKES ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED

400 North Ashley Drive

Tampa, Florida 33602

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

Date and Time:	8:00 a.m. Eastern Daylight Savings time on May 19, 2015
Place:	Offices of the Tampa Bay Wave
	400 North Ashley Drive, 2 nd Floor, Tampa, Florida, 33602
Items of Business:	1. To elect three directors to hold office until the 2018 Annual Meeting of Shareholders;
	2. To hold a shareholder advisory vote on executive compensation;
	3. To ratify the appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP as independent auditors of the Company; and
	4. To transact any other business as may properly come before the Annual Meeting.

Only shareholders of record as of the close of business on March 20, 2015, will be entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting or any adjournment or postponement of the Annual Meeting. Information relating to the matters to be considered and voted on at the Annual Meeting is set forth in the proxy statement accompanying this Notice.

Tampa, Florida

April 15, 2015

By Order of the Board of Directors,

James T. Holder Secretary

GENERAL INFORMATION SYKES ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED

400 North Ashley Drive

Tampa, Florida 33602

PROXY STATEMENT

2015 ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

Tuesday, May 19, 2015

GENERAL INFORMATION

This proxy statement is furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies on behalf of the Board of Directors of Sykes Enterprises, Incorporated (the Company) for the Annual Meeting of Shareholders (the Annual Meeting) to be held at the offices of the Tampa Bay Wave, 400 North Ashley Drive, 2nd floor, Tampa, Florida, 33602, on Tuesday, May 19,

2015, at 8:00 a.m., Eastern Daylight Savings Time, and any adjournment or postponement of the Annual Meeting.

This proxy statement and the annual report to shareholders of the Company for the year ended December 31, 2014 are first being mailed on or about April 17, 2015 to shareholders entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting.

Shareholders Entitled To Vote

The record date for the Annual Meeting is March 20, 2015. Only shareholders of record as of the close of business on the record date are entitled to notice of the Annual Meeting and to vote at the Annual Meeting. As of the record date, 43,306,605 shares of common stock were outstanding and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting.

Votes cast by proxy or in person at the Annual Meeting will be tabulated by the inspector of elections appointed for the Annual Meeting, who will also determine whether a quorum is present for the transaction of business. The Company s Bylaws provide that a quorum is present if the holders of a majority of the issued and outstanding shares of common stock entitled to vote at the meeting are present in person or represented by proxy. Abstentions will be counted as shares that are present and entitled to vote for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present. Shares held by nominees for beneficial owners will also be counted for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present if the nominee has the discretion to vote on at least one of the matters presented, even though the nominee may not exercise discretionary voting power with respect to other matters and even though voting instructions have not been received from the beneficial owner (a broker non-vote). At the Annual Meeting, if a quorum exists, directors will be elected by a majority vote, as more fully described under Proposal 1 Election of Directors below. Approval of the other proposals will require the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast on the proposal at the Annual Meeting. Broker non-votes will not be counted as votes cast in determining whether a Proposal has been approved.

Shareholders are requested to vote by completing the enclosed Proxy and returning it signed and dated in the enclosed postage-paid envelope. Shareholders are urged to

indicate their votes in the spaces provided on the Proxy. Proxies solicited by the Board of Directors of the Company will be voted in accordance with the directions given in the Proxy. Where no instructions are indicated, signed Proxies will be voted FOR each of the proposals listed in the Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders. Returning your completed Proxy will not prevent you from voting in person at the Annual Meeting, should you be present and wish to do so.

Any shareholder giving a Proxy has the power to revoke it at any time before it is exercised by:

filing with the Secretary of the Company written notice of revocation,

submitting a duly executed Proxy bearing a later date than the previous Proxy, or

appearing at the Annual Meeting and voting in person.

Proxies solicited by this proxy statement may be exercised only at the Annual Meeting and any adjournment of the Annual Meeting and will not be used for any other meeting. Proxies solicited by this proxy statement will be returned to the Board of Directors and will be tabulated by an inspector of elections designated by the Board of Directors.

The cost of solicitation of Proxies by mail on behalf of the Board of Directors will be borne by the Company. Proxies also may be solicited by personal interview or by telephone by directors, officers, and other employees of the Company without additional compensation. The Company also has made arrangements with brokerage firms, banks, nominees, and other fiduciaries that hold shares on behalf of others to forward proxy solicitation materials to the beneficial owners of such shares. The Company will reimburse such record holders for their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses.

PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

The Company s Board of Directors (the Board) currently is comprised of 9 individuals, and is divided into three classes (designated CLASS I, CLASS II, and CLASS III), as nearly equal in number as possible, with each class serving a three-year term expiring at the third annual meeting of shareholders after its election. The term of the three current CLASS III directors will expire at the Annual Meeting. The Company s Board of Directors, upon the recommendation of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, has nominated Mr. Charles E. Sykes, Mr. James K. Murray, Jr. and Mr. William J. Meurer to stand for election, as CLASS III directors, whose terms will all expire at the 2018 Annual Meeting of Shareholders.

Provided that a quorum is present at the Annual Meeting, each nominee shall be elected by the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast with respect to that nominee s election. A majority of votes cast means that the number of shares voted for a director s election exceeds 50% of the number of votes cast with respect to that director s election.

Votes cast shall include (i) votes for the election of such director and (ii) votes against the election of such director, and shall exclude abstentions with respect to that director s election and broker non-votes.

Incumbent directors Sykes, Murray and Meurer have provided to the Company contingent letters of resignation from the Board which shall become effective only if such director fails to receive a sufficient number of votes for re-election at the Annual Meeting and the Board determines to accept the resignation. The Board will consider and act upon the letter of resignation of a director who fails to receive the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast on his election within ninety (90) days after the date on which the election results were certified and will promptly make public disclosure of the results of its decision. The Board, in making its decision, may consider any factors or other information that it considers appropriate and relevant. The director who has tendered his resignation shall not participate in the decision of the Board with respect to his resignation. If such incumbent director s resignation is not accepted by the Board, such director shall continue to serve until his successor is duly elected, or his earlier resignation or removal.

In the event any nominee is unable to serve, the persons designated as proxies will cast votes for such other person in their discretion as a substitute nominee. The Board of Directors has no reason to believe that the nominees named herein will be unavailable or, if elected, will decline to serve.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING NOMINEES FOR ELECTION AS DIRECTORS IN THE CLASS SPECIFIED AND URGES EACH SHAREHOLDER TO VOTE FOR THE NOMINEES. EXECUTED PROXIES IN THE ACCOMPANYING FORM THAT ARE NOT OTHERWISE MARKED WILL BE VOTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING FOR THE ELECTION AS DIRECTORS OF THE NOMINEES NAMED BELOW.

Directors Standing for Election at the 2015 Annual Meeting

CLASS III TERM EXPIRES AT THE 2015 ANNUAL MEETING.

Name	Age	Position(s) with the Company	Director Since
Charles E. Sykes	52	Director, President & Chief Executive Officer	2004
William J. Meurer ⁽⁴⁾⁽³⁾⁽⁵⁾	71	Director & Chairman of the Audit Committee	2000
James K. Murray, Jr. (2)(5)	79	Director & Chairman of the Finance Committee	2005

Directors Whose Term of Office Continues

CLASS II TERM EXPIRES AT THE 2016 ANNUAL MEETING.

			Director
Name	Age	Position(s) with the Company	Since
Paul L. Whiting ⁽¹⁾⁽⁴⁾	71	Director & Non-Executive Chairman	2003
Lt. General Michael DeLong (Ret.) (2)(3)	69	Director	2003
Iain A. Macdonald ⁽⁴⁾⁽⁵⁾	70	Director	2004

PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS CLASS I TERM EXPIRES AT THE 2017 ANNUAL MEETING.

			Director
Name	Age	Position(s) with the Company	Since
James S. MacLeod (2)(4)(5)	67	Director	2005
William D. Muir, Jr. (2)(5)	46	Director	2014
Lorraine Leigh Lutton (3)(4)	49	Director	2014

(1) Chairman of the Board

(2) Member of the Compensation Committee

(3) Member of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee

(4) Member of the Audit Committee

(5) Member of the Finance Committee

PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Director Qualifications and Biographical Information

Biographical information for each of the director nominees is set forth below, including the key qualifications, experience, attributes, and skills that led our Board to the conclusion that each of the director nominees should serve as a director.

Our Board includes individuals with strong backgrounds in executive leadership and management, accounting and finance, and Company and industry knowledge, and we believe that, as a group, they work effectively together in overseeing our business. We believe that our directors hold themselves to the highest standards of integrity and that they are committed to representing the long-term best interests of our stockholders. While we do not have a formal diversity policy, we believe that our directors diversity of backgrounds and experiences, which include public accounting, military, aerospace, manufacturing, banking, technology, healthcare, telecommunications, finance, medical and retail, results in different ideas and varying viewpoints that contribute to effective oversight of our business.

Mr. Whiting

Director Since December 2003

Paul L. Whiting was elected to the Board of Directors in December 2003 and was elected Non-Executive Chairman in August 2004. He is also a member of the Board's Audit Committee. Since 1997, Mr. Whiting has been President of Seabreeze Holdings, Inc., a privately held investment company. Previously, Mr. Whiting held various positions within Spalding & Evenflo Companies, Inc., including Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer. Presently, Mr. Whiting sits on the boards of TECO Energy, Inc. (a public company) and Tampa Electric Company, New Mexico Gas Company, The Bank of Tampa and its holding company, The Tampa Bay Banking Co. Mr. Whiting also serves on the boards of various civic organizations, including, among others, the Academy Prep Center of Tampa, Inc., a full scholarship, private, college preparatory middle school for low-income children, where he is a Trustee and past Board President.

Qualifications:

Mr. Whiting s public company CEO, CFO and director experience as well as his private investment company business experience provides a unique combination of leadership, financial and business analytical skills, business judgment and investment banking knowledge to the Board as the Company s non-executive Chairman.

Lt. Gen. DeLong

Director Since September 2003

Lt. General Michael DeLong (USMC Retired) was elected to the Board of Directors in September 2003 and is Chairman of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and a member the Compensation Committee. From October 2003 to February 2008, Lt. Gen. DeLong served as Vice Chairman of Shaw Arabia Limited, President of Shaw CentCom Services, LLC, and Senior Vice President of the Shaw Group, Inc. From February, 2008 through February 2013, Lt. Gen. DeLong served as Vice President of Boeing International Corporation. On March 1, 2013, Lt. Gen. DeLong was named President and CEO and General Manager of Gulf to Gulf Contractors International and serves as an advocate for several companies in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia in transactions with Boeing. From 1967 until his retirement on November 1, 2003, Lt. Gen. DeLong led a distinguished military career, most recently serving as the Deputy Commander, United States Central Command at MacDill Air

Force Base, Tampa, Florida. He holds a Master s Degree in Industrial Management from Central Michigan University and an honorary Doctorate in Strategic Intelligence from the Joint Military Intelligence College and graduated from the Naval Academy as an Aeronautical Engineer.

Qualifications:

Gen. DeLong s military career, together with his international business executive experience, allows him to bring to the Board leadership and skills in strategic analysis and judgment as well as a knowledge of international business and political environments.

PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Mr. Macdonald

Director Since May 2004

Iain A. Macdonald was originally elected to the Board of Directors in 1998 and served until 2001, when he resigned for personal reasons. Mr. Macdonald was re-elected to the Board of Directors in May 2004 and since then has been a member of the Audit Committee. In December 2012, Mr. Macdonald was also appointed as a member of the Finance Committee. During the past 10 years, Mr. Macdonald has served on the boards of a series of technology-based business ventures in the UK, which he has assisted to develop and obtain funding. He was a founding partner, and is currently Chairman of Yakara Ltd., a developer of SMS and IVR telecommunications software solutions and is a former member of the Board of Northern AIM VCT plc, which is a venture capital investment fund. From 2008 to 2011, he served on the Board of Scottish Enterprise, Scotland s economic development agency. Prior to joining the Company s Board in 1998, Mr. Macdonald served as a director of McQueen International Ltd. from 1996 until its acquisition by the Company in 1998.

Qualifications:

Having served as a director of an entity in the UK which was acquired by the Company in 1998, Mr. Macdonald offers a unique institutional viewpoint and depth of industry knowledge. He also brings to the Board considerable leadership, international business, information technology, business software, financial and governmental experience.

Mr. Sykes

Director Since August 2004

Charles E. Sykes was elected to the Board of Directors in August 2004 to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of the Company s founder and former Chairman, John H. Sykes. Mr. Charles Sykes joined the Company in September 1986 and has served in numerous capacities throughout his years with the Company. Mr. Sykes was appointed as Vice President of Sales, North America in 1999 and between the years of 2000 to 2003 served as Group Executive, Senior Vice President of Marketing and Global Alliances, and Senior Vice President of Global Operations. Mr. Sykes was appointed President and Chief Operating Officer in July, 2003 and was named President and Chief Executive Officer in August 2004. Mr. Sykes received his Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from North Carolina State University in 1985. He currently serves on the boards of the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce, the Tampa Bay Partnership and the Tampa Bay Metro Board of the American Heart Association, as a Trustee of the University of Tampa, as a director of Feeding America of Tampa Bay, Inc. and Junior Achievement of Tampa Bay, serves on the Board of Visitors for North Carolina State University, and is a member of the Florida Council of 100.

Qualifications:

As the Chief Executive Officer of the Company, Mr. Sykes provides the Board with information gained from hands-on management of Company operations, identifying near-term and long-term goals, challenges and opportunities. As the son of the Company s founder and having worked for the Company for his full career, he brings a continuity of mission and values on which the Company was established.

PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Mr. MacLeod

Director Since May 2005

James S. MacLeod was elected to the Board of Directors in May 2005 and is Chairman of the Compensation Committee and is a member of the Audit Committee and the Finance Committee. Mr. MacLeod has served in various positions at CoastalStates Bank in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina since February 2004 and is currently its President. Mr. MacLeod also serves on the Board of Directors of CoastalStates Bank and has served as Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of CoastalSouth Bancshares, its holding company, since 2011. From June 1982 to February 2004, he held various positions at Mortgage Guaranty Insurance Corp in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, the last 7 years serving as its Executive Vice President. Mr. MacLeod has a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics from the University of Tampa, a Master of Science in Real Estate and Urban Affairs from Georgia State University and a Masters in City Planning from the Georgia Institute of Technology. Mr. MacLeod is also a Trustee of the Allianz Global Investors Funds and serves as Chairman of their Governance Committee.

Qualifications:

As a result of his extensive financial services background, Mr. MacLeod brings to the Board valuable financial analytical skills and experience, a deep understanding of cash transaction and management issues, as well as business acumen and judgment. *Mr. Murray*

Director Since May 2005

James (Jack) K. Murray, Jr., was elected to the Board of Directors in May 2005 and is a member and Chairman of the Finance Committee and a member of the Compensation Committee. Mr. Murray currently serves as Chairman of Murray Corporation, a private venture capital enterprise based in Tampa, Florida. Mr. Murray also serves as President of Murray Advisors, Inc. and as Chairman of the Advisory Board of HealthEdge Investment Fund II, a private equity fund focused primarily on investments in the health care field. In 1970, Mr. Murray was one of the founders of a company that is today HealthPlan Services, Inc. which was acquired by The Dun & Bradstreet Corporation (NYSE:DNB) in 1978. From 1978 through 1993, Mr. Murray served in various capacities for Dun & Bradstreet Corporation, including President of Dun & Bradstreet Credit Services, and from 1990 through 1993, served in various capacities including President, principal executive officer and Chairman for the Reuben H. Donnelley Corp., a publisher of telephone yellow pages. In 1994, Mr. Murray and other financial partners acquired HealthPlan Services from Dun & Bradstreet. In May 1995, HealthPlan Services became a public company and was listed on the New York Stock Exchange. Mr. Murray retired from HealthPlan Services in 2000. Mr. Murray serves on the boards of the University of Tampa, Canterbury Towers, and The General Theological Seminary.

Qualifications:

Mr. Murray s diverse experience in both the public company and private venture capital arenas allows him to bring to the Board significant leadership skills as well as business, transactional and financial analytic skills.

PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Mr. Meurer

Director Since October 2000

William J. Meurer was elected to the Board of Directors in October 2000 and is a member and Chairman of the Audit Committee and a member of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. Previously, Mr. Meurer was employed for 35 years with Arthur Andersen LLP where he served most recently as the Managing Partner for Arthur Andersen s Central Florida operations. Since retiring from Arthur Andersen in 2000, Mr. Meurer has been a private investor and consultant. Mr. Meurer also serves on the Board of Trustees for Lifelink Foundation, Inc. and as a member of the Board of Directors of the Eagle Family of Funds and Walter Investment Management Corporation.

Qualifications:

As former managing partner of an international public accounting firm, Mr. Meurer brings to our Board relevant experience with financial accounting, audit and reporting issues, SEC filings and complex corporate transactions.

Ms. Lutton

Director Since May 2014

Lorraine L. Lutton was elected to the Board of Directors in 2014 and is a member of the Audit and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committees. Ms. Lutton serves as the President of St. Joseph s Hospital, a 529 bed tertiary acute care facility in Tampa, Florida and member of the BayCare Health System, as well as the Hillsborough County Market Leader for BayCare Health System, where her responsibilities include representing BayCare to the community, serving as the local liaison to the St. Joseph s-Baptist Healthcare Governing Board and coordinating all of BayCare s acute care facilities in Hillsborough County, including St. Joseph s Hospital, St. Joseph s Hospital, St. Joseph s Children s Hospital, St. Joseph s Hospital-North, St. Joseph s Hospital-South and South Florida Baptist Hospital in Plant City, totaling over 1,000 beds. Ms. Lutton has been employed by St. Joseph s in a variety of roles since 1992, serving most recently as Chief Operating Officer from 2004 to 2013, when she was named as President. Ms. Lutton received her bachelor s degree in public health, health policy and administration from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and her master s degree in business administration from the Anderson Graduate School of Management at UCLA. Ms. Lutton is a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

Qualifications:

Ms. Lutton brings to our Board substantial business experience in the healthcare arena, as well as communication, planning, organizational and management skills.

Mr. Muir

Director Since May 2014

William D. Muir, Jr. was elected to the Board of Directors in 2014 and is a member of the Compensation and Finance Committees. Mr. Muir serves as the Chief Operating Officer of Jabil Circuit, Inc. (NYSE: JBL), having been promoted to this position in 2013. From 2009 to 2013, Mr. Muir served as Jabil s Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer, Global Manufacturing Services, responsible for \$14B of annual revenue with commercial leadership across diversified markets, including Healthcare & Life Sciences, Enterprise & Infrastructure, High Velocity and Industrial & Clean-tech. Additionally, Mr. Muir led the global, integrated capabilities in Operations, Supply Chain and Design which underpin these diversified businesses. Previously, Mr. Muir served as Regional President for Asia, responsible for Jabil s Operations and Business Development efforts across China, India, Vietnam, Malaysia, Singapore and Japan. In this capacity, he resided in Shanghai from 2004 through 2007 and subsequently in Singapore until 2009. Prior to his leadership role in Asia, Mr. Muir led Global Business Development efforts for Jabil across large-scale customer relationships and has also held roles leading Operations across the Americas.

Qualifications:

Mr. Muir brings to our Board a diverse background spanning engineering, manufacturing, supply chain, business development, and operations. He has been a leader in information technology, supply chain, security, quality, engineering innovation, and global, strategic accounts. Mr. Muir s decade long global and domestic profit and loss responsibility also brings valuable business financial acumen to the Board.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Company maintains a corporate governance page on its website which includes key information about its corporate governance initiatives, including its Corporate Governance Guidelines, Code of Ethics, and charters for the committees of the Board of Directors. The corporate governance page can be found at <u>www.sykes.com</u>, by clicking on Company, then Investor Relations and then on the links under the heading Corporate Governance.

The Company s policies and practices reflect corporate governance initiatives that are compliant with the listing requirements of the Nasdaq Stock Market and the corporate governance requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, including:

the Board of Directors has adopted clear corporate governance policies;

a majority of the board members are independent of the Company and its management;

all members of the key board committees the Audit Committee, the Compensation Committee, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the Finance Committee are independent;

the independent members of the Board of Directors meet regularly without the presence of management;

the Company has adopted a code of ethics that applies to all directors, officers and employees which is monitored by its Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee;

the charters of the Board committees clearly establish their respective roles and responsibilities; and

the Company s Audit Committee has established procedures for the receipt, retention and treatment, on a confidential basis, of complaints received by the Company, including the Board and the Audit Committee, regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters, and the confidential, anonymous submissions by employees of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters. These procedures are described under Communications With Our Board below.

Certain Relationships and Related Person Transactions

Review and Approval of Related Person Transactions. In order to ensure that material transactions and relationships involving a potential conflict of interest for any executive officer or director of the Company are in the best interests of the Company, under the Code of Ethics adopted by the Board of Directors for all of our employees and directors, all such conflicts of interest are required to be reported to the Board of Directors, and the approval of the Board of Directors must be obtained in advance for the Company to enter into any such transaction or relationship. Pursuant to the Code of Ethics, no officer or employee of the Company may, on behalf of the Company, authorize or approve any transaction or relationship, or enter into any agreement, in which such officer or employee of the Company may, on behalf of the Company, authorize or approve any transaction or relationship, or enter into any agreement, if they are aware that an executive officer or a director of the Company, or any member of any such person s family, may have a personal interest in such transaction or relationship, without such Board approval.

The Company s Audit Committee reviews all conflict of interest transactions involving executive officers and directors of the Company, pursuant to its charter.

In the course of their review of a related party transaction, the Board and the Audit Committee considers:

the nature of the related person s interest in the transaction;

the material terms of the transaction, including, without limitation, the amount and type of transaction;

the importance of the transaction to the Company;

the importance of the transaction to the related person;

whether the transaction would impair the judgment of the director or executive officer to act in the best interests of the Company; and

any other matters the Board or Audit Committee deems appropriate.

Any member of the Board or the Audit Committee who has a conflict of interest with respect to a transaction under review may not participate in the deliberations or vote respecting approval of the transaction, provided, however, that such director may be counted in determining the presence of a quorum.

<u>Table</u>