

RED ROBIN GOURMET BURGERS INC
Form 10-Q
August 22, 2018

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549
FORM 10-Q
(Mark One)

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended July 15, 2018

or
 TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File Number: 001-34851

RED ROBIN GOURMET BURGERS, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)
Delaware 84-1573084
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)
6312 S. Fiddler's Green Circle, Suite 200 N
Greenwood Village, CO 80111
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)
(303) 846-6000
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer
Non-accelerated filer (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company
Emerging growth company

Edgar Filing: RED ROBIN GOURMET BURGERS INC - Form 10-Q

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

Class	Outstanding at August 21, 2018
Common Stock, \$0.001 par value per share	12,996,527

Table of Contents

RED ROBIN GOURMET BURGERS, INC.
TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<u>PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION</u>	
<u>Item 1. Financial Statements (unaudited)</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations</u>	<u>3</u>
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss)	<u>4</u>
<u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	<u>21</u>
<u>Item 4. Controls and Procedures</u>	<u>22</u>
<u>PART II - OTHER INFORMATION</u>	
<u>Item 1. Legal Proceedings</u>	<u>23</u>
<u>Item 1A. Risk Factors</u>	<u>24</u>
<u>Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u>	<u>25</u>
<u>Item 6. Exhibits</u>	<u>27</u>

Table of Contents

PART I — FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1. Financial Statements (unaudited)

RED ROBIN GOURMET BURGERS, INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(In thousands, except per share amounts)

	(Unaudited)	
	July 15, 2018	December 31, 2017
Assets:		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 21,896	\$ 17,714
Accounts receivable, net	13,992	26,499
Inventories	29,294	29,553
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	17,798	31,038
Total current assets	82,980	104,804
Property and equipment, net	607,305	638,151
Goodwill	96,315	96,979
Intangible assets, net	36,627	38,273
Other assets, net	39,218	32,408
Total assets	\$ 862,445	\$ 910,615
Liabilities and stockholders' equity:		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 33,691	\$ 35,347
Accrued payroll and payroll-related liabilities	37,665	32,777
Unearned revenue	40,627	55,915
Accrued liabilities and other	39,850	36,300
Total current liabilities	151,833	160,339
Deferred rent	76,930	74,980
Long-term debt	221,375	266,375
Long-term portion of capital lease obligations	9,804	10,197
Other non-current liabilities	10,685	11,289
Total liabilities	470,627	523,180
Stockholders' equity:		
Common stock, \$0.001 par value: 45,000 shares authorized; 17,851 and 17,851 shares issued; 13,003 and 12,954 shares outstanding	18	18
Preferred stock, \$0.001 par value: 3,000 shares authorized; no shares issued and outstanding	—	—
Treasury stock 4,848 and 4,897 shares, at cost	(200,482)	(202,485)
Paid-in capital	211,352	210,708
Accumulated other comprehensive loss, net of tax	(4,336)	(3,566)
Retained earnings	385,266	382,760
Total stockholders' equity	391,818	387,435
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 862,445	\$ 910,615

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

RED ROBIN GOURMET BURGERS, INC.
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
 (In thousands, except per share amounts)
 (Unaudited)

	Twelve Weeks Ended		Twenty-eight Weeks Ended	
	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017
Revenues:				
Restaurant revenue	\$310,392	\$312,351	\$725,094	\$725,802
Franchise and other revenues	4,996	4,959	11,813	12,138
Total revenues	315,388	317,310	736,907	737,940
Costs and expenses:				
Restaurant operating costs (excluding depreciation and amortization shown separately below):				
Cost of sales	74,874	73,903	173,389	168,510
Labor	106,476	108,422	249,491	253,941
Other operating	42,668	40,057	97,693	92,121
Occupancy	26,460	25,140	61,470	58,259
Depreciation and amortization	22,323	21,173	51,516	49,217
Selling, general, and administrative expenses	35,617	36,288	81,935	84,252
Pre-opening costs	569	1,377	1,706	3,232
Other charges	10,615	1,584	16,902	1,584
Total costs and expenses	319,602	307,944	734,102	711,116
Income (loss) from operations	(4,214)	9,366	2,805	26,824
Other expense:				
Interest expense, net and other	2,385	2,453	5,792	5,437
(Loss) income before income taxes	(6,599)	6,913	(2,987)	21,387
(Benefit) provision for income taxes	(4,725)	(18)	(5,493)	2,889
Net income (loss)	\$(1,874)	\$6,931	\$2,506	\$18,498
Earnings (loss) per share:				
Basic	\$(0.14)	\$0.54	\$0.19	\$1.44
Diluted	\$(0.14)	\$0.53	\$0.19	\$1.43
Weighted average shares outstanding:				
Basic	12,982	12,896	12,979	12,872
Diluted	12,982	13,008	13,080	12,971

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

RED ROBIN GOURMET BURGERS, INC.

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)

(In thousands)

(Unaudited)

	Twelve Weeks Ended		Twenty-eight Weeks Ended	
	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017
Net income (loss)	\$(1,874)	\$6,931	\$2,506	\$18,498
Foreign currency translation adjustment	(497)	755	(770)	967
Other comprehensive (loss) income, net of tax	(497)	755	(770)	967
Total comprehensive income (loss)	\$(2,371)	\$7,686	\$1,736	\$19,465

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

RED ROBIN GOURMET BURGERS, INC.
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
 (In thousands)
 (Unaudited)

	Twenty-eight Weeks Ended	
	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income	\$2,506	\$18,498
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	51,516	49,217
Other charges - asset impairment and unpaid other charges	14,537	1,584
(Benefit) provision for deferred income taxes	(7,766)	1,805
Stock-based compensation expense	2,356	2,487
Other, net	(964)	(1,944)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	14,070	12,126
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	13,744	4,602
Trade accounts payable and accrued liabilities	77	23,039
Unearned revenue	(13,591)	(9,280)
Other operating assets and liabilities, net	535	2,591
Net cash provided by operating activities	77,020	104,725
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchases of property, equipment, and intangible assets	(27,319)	(41,847)
Proceeds from sales of real estate and property, plant, and equipment and other investing activities	115	113
Net cash used in investing activities	(27,204)	(41,734)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Borrowings of long-term debt	160,500	85,250
Payments of long-term debt and capital leases	(205,870)	(141,826)
Debt issuance costs	—	(664)
Proceeds from exercise of stock options and employee stock purchase plan	732	2,588
Net cash used in financing activities	(44,638)	(54,652)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash	(996)	108
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	4,182	8,447
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	17,714	11,732
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$21,896	\$20,179
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information		
Income taxes paid	\$991	\$2,205
Interest paid, net of amounts capitalized	\$5,411	\$5,699
Change in construction related payables	\$2,127	\$1,847
See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.		

Table of Contents

RED ROBIN GOURMET BURGERS, INC.

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Unaudited)

1. Basis of Presentation and Recent Accounting Pronouncements

Red Robin Gourmet Burgers, Inc., a Delaware corporation, together with its subsidiaries (“Red Robin” or the “Company”), primarily develops, operates, and franchises full-service restaurants in North America. As of July 15, 2018, the Company owned and operated 484 restaurants located in 44 states and two Canadian provinces. The Company also had 88 franchised full-service restaurants in 16 states as of July 15, 2018. The Company operates its business as one operating and one reportable segment.

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Red Robin and its wholly owned subsidiaries. All intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. The Company’s financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“GAAP”) for interim financial information. In the opinion of management, all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring adjustments) considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included. The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. The results of operations for any interim period are not necessarily indicative of results for the full year.

The accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements of Red Robin have been prepared pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”), including the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in the Company’s annual consolidated financial statements on Form 10-K have been condensed or omitted. The condensed consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2017 has been derived from the audited consolidated financial statements as of that date, but does not include all disclosures required for audited annual financial statements. For further information, please refer to and read these interim condensed consolidated financial statements in conjunction with the Company’s audited consolidated financial statements included in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017, filed with the SEC on February 27, 2018.

The Company’s quarter that ended July 15, 2018 is referred to as second quarter 2018, or the twelve weeks ended July 15, 2018; the first quarter ended April 22, 2018 is referred to as first quarter 2018; and together, the first and second quarters of 2018 are referred to as the twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018. The quarter ended July 9, 2017 is referred to as second quarter 2017, or the twelve weeks ended July 9, 2017; the first quarter ended April 16, 2017 is referred to as first quarter 2017, or the sixteen weeks ended April 16, 2017; and together, the first and second quarters of 2017 are referred to as the twenty-eight weeks ended July 9, 2017. The Company’s fiscal year 2018 comprises 52 weeks and will end on December 30, 2018.

Reclassifications

Certain amounts presented in prior periods have been reclassified to conform with the current period presentation. For the twelve weeks ended July 9, 2017, the Company reclassified local marketing costs of \$2.7 million from Other operating to Selling, general, and administrative expenses on the condensed consolidated statements of operations. For the twenty-eight weeks ended July 9, 2017, the Company reclassified local marketing costs of \$5.3 million. Management believes this presentation better reflects marketing expenses subject to corporate, rather than restaurant-level, decision making.

Recently Issued Accounting Standards

In February 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued Update 2016-02, Leases (“Topic 842”). This guidance requires the recognition of liabilities for lease obligations and corresponding right-of-use assets on the balance sheet and disclosure of key information about leasing arrangements. This guidance is effective for annual and interim reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2018 using a modified retrospective adoption method with the option of applying the guidance either retrospectively to each prior comparative reporting period presented or retrospectively at the beginning of the period of adoption. Early adoption is permitted. The Company will adopt this

guidance beginning with its fiscal first quarter 2019 and will apply it retrospectively at the beginning of the period of adoption through a cumulative-effect adjustment to retained earnings. We will elect to apply the practical expedients that do not require us to reassess existing contracts for embedded leases or to reassess lease classification or initial direct costs. The Company selected and began implementing a new lease management system during 2017. Once the transition to the new system is completed in 2018, this software will enable us

Table of Contents

to quantify the full impact Topic 842 will have on our consolidated financial statements. We expect adoption of Topic 842 will result in a significant increase in the assets and liabilities on our consolidated balance sheet.

2. Revenue

In May 2014, the FASB issued Revenue from Contracts with Customers (“Topic 606”), subsequently amended by various standard updates. This guidance requires an entity to recognize revenue when it transfers promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. Additionally, this guidance expands related disclosure requirements. The Company adopted Topic 606 in first quarter 2018 and applied the guidance retrospectively to all prior periods presented. Topic 606 impacts the accounting treatment of the Company’s advertising contribution funds, and the Company’s financial statements, as outlined below.

Advertising Fund Contributions

Under Red Robin franchise agreements, the Company and its franchisees are required to contribute a certain percentage of revenues to two national media advertising funds. The Company’s national advertising services are provided on a system-wide basis and, therefore, not considered distinct performance obligations for individual franchisees. The Company previously recorded the advertising contributions from franchisees as a reduction to advertising expense under Selling, general, and administrative expenses. In accordance with Topic 606, the Company recognizes these sales-based advertising contributions from franchisees as franchise revenue when the underlying franchisee sales occur. The Company records the related advertising expenses as incurred under Selling, general, and administrative expenses. When an advertising fund is over-spent at year end, advertising expenses will be reported on the consolidated statement of operations in an amount that is greater than the revenue recorded for advertising contributions. Conversely, when an advertising fund is under-spent at year end, the Company will accrue advertising costs up to advertising contributions recorded in revenue. All prior periods presented have been retrospectively adjusted for this change in accounting policy. The adoption of this standard did not impact previously reported amounts of net income.

Impacts on Financial Statements

The following table summarizes the impact of Topic 606 adoption on previously reported results on the Company’s consolidated statements of operations (in thousands):

	Twelve Weeks Ended July 9, 2017		Twenty-eight Weeks Ended July 9, 2017			
	As previously reported	Adjustments	As adjusted	As previously reported	Adjustments	As adjusted
Franchise and other revenue	\$3,420	\$ 1,539	\$ 4,959	\$8,526	\$ 3,612	\$ 12,138
Selling, general, and administrative expenses ⁽¹⁾	34,749	1,539	36,288	80,640	3,612	84,252

(1) Selling, general, and administrative expenses were previously reported as \$32.1 million prior to the reclassification of \$2.7 million of local marketing costs for second quarter 2017. Selling, general, and administrative expenses were previously reported as \$75.4 million prior to the reclassification of \$5.3 million for twenty-eight weeks ended July 9, 2017. See “Reclassifications” under Note 1, Basis of Presentation and Recent Accounting Pronouncements.

Revenue recognition

Revenues consist of sales from restaurant operations; franchise revenue; and other revenue, including gift card breakage and miscellaneous revenue. The Company recognizes revenue when it satisfies a performance obligation by transferring control over a product or service to a restaurant guest, franchisee, or other customer.

Restaurant revenue

The Company recognizes revenues from restaurant sales when payment is tendered at the point of sale, as the Company’s performance obligation to provide food and beverage to the customer has been satisfied.

The Company sells gift cards which do not have an expiration date, and it does not deduct dormancy fees from outstanding gift card balances. We recognize revenue from gift cards as either: (i) Restaurant revenue, when the

Company's performance obligation to provide food and beverage to the customer is satisfied upon redemption of the gift card, or (ii) gift card breakage, as discussed in Other revenue below.

7

Table of Contents

Red Robin Royalty™ deferred revenue primarily relates to a program in which registered members earn an award for a free entrée for every nine entrées purchased. We recognize the current sale of an entrée and defer a portion of the revenue to reflect partial pre-payment for the future entrée the member is entitled to receive. We estimate the future value of the award based on the historical average value of redemptions. We also estimate what portion of registered members are not likely to reach the ninth purchase based on historical activity and recognize the deferred revenue related to those purchases. We recognize the deferred revenue in restaurant revenue on earned rewards when the Company satisfies its performance obligation at redemption, or upon expiration. We compare the estimate of the value of future awards to historical redemptions to evaluate the reasonableness of the deferred amount.

Franchise revenue

Revenues we receive from our franchise arrangements include sales-based royalties and advertising fund contributions, area development fees, and franchise fees. Red Robin franchisees are required to remit 4.0% of their revenues as royalties to the Company and contribute 3.0% of revenues to two national media advertising funds. The Company recognizes these sales-based royalties and advertising fund contributions as the underlying franchisee sales occur.

The Company also provides its franchisees with management expertise, training, pre-opening assistance, and restaurant operating assistance in exchange for area development fees and franchise fees. The Company capitalizes these fees upon collection from the franchisee, which then amortize over the contracted franchise term as the services comprising the performance obligation are satisfied. The Company typically grants franchise rights to franchisees for a term of 20 years, with the right to extend the term for an additional ten years if various conditions are satisfied by the franchisee.

Other revenue

Gift card breakage is recognized when the likelihood of a gift card being redeemed by the customer is remote and the Company determines that there is not a legal obligation to remit the unredeemed gift card balance to the relevant jurisdiction. The determination of the gift card breakage rate is based upon the Company's specific historical redemption patterns. The Company recognizes gift card breakage by applying its estimate of the rate of gift card breakage on a pro rata basis over the period of estimated redemption.

Other revenue also consists of miscellaneous revenues considered insignificant to the Company's business.

Disaggregation of revenue

In the following table, revenue is disaggregated by type of good or service (in thousands):

	Twelve Weeks Ended		Twenty-eight Weeks Ended	
	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017
Restaurant revenue	\$310,392	\$312,351	\$725,094	\$725,802
Franchise revenue	4,006	4,115	9,449	9,651
Other revenue	990	844	2,364	2,487
Total revenues	\$315,388	\$317,310	\$736,907	\$737,940

Contract liabilities

Unearned gift card revenue at July 15, 2018 and December 31, 2017 was \$30.4 million and \$45.4 million. Deferred loyalty revenue, which was also included in Unearned revenue in the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheets, was \$10.2 million and \$10.6 million at July 15, 2018 and December 31, 2017.

Revenue recognized in the condensed consolidated statements of operations for the redemption of gift cards that were included in the liability balance at the beginning of the fiscal year was as follows (in thousands):

	Twenty-eight Weeks Ended	
	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017
Gift card revenue	\$16,269	\$16,267

Table of Contents

3. Goodwill and Intangible Assets

The following table presents goodwill as of July 15, 2018 and December 31, 2017 (in thousands):

Balance, December 31, 2017	\$96,979
Foreign currency translation adjustment (664)	
Balance, July 15, 2018	\$96,315

The Company recorded no goodwill impairment losses in the period presented in the table above or any prior periods.

The following table presents intangible assets as of July 15, 2018 and December 31, 2017 (in thousands):

	July 15, 2018			December 31, 2017		
	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Carrying Amount	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Carrying Amount
Intangible assets subject to amortization:						
Franchise rights	\$54,422	\$ (31,557)	\$ 22,865	\$54,447	\$ (29,685)	\$ 24,762
Favorable leases	13,001	(7,832)	5,169	13,001	(7,459)	5,542
Liquor licenses and other	10,848	(9,714)	1,134	10,148	(9,667)	481
	\$78,271	\$ (49,103)	\$ 29,168	\$77,596	\$ (46,811)	\$ 30,785
Indefinite-lived intangible assets:						
Liquor licenses and other	\$7,459	\$ —	\$ 7,459	\$7,488	\$ —	\$ 7,488
Intangible assets, net	\$85,730	\$ (49,103)	\$ 36,627	\$85,084	\$ (46,811)	\$ 38,273

4. Earnings Per Share

Basic earnings (loss) per share amounts are calculated by dividing net income (loss) by the weighted-average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the period. Diluted earnings (loss) per share amounts are calculated based upon the weighted-average number of shares of common stock and potentially dilutive shares of common stock outstanding during the period. Potentially dilutive shares are excluded from the computation in periods in which they have an anti-dilutive effect. Diluted earnings (loss) per share reflect the potential dilution that could occur if holders of options exercised their options into common stock.

The Company uses the treasury stock method to calculate the effect of outstanding stock options. Basic weighted average shares outstanding is reconciled to diluted weighted average shares outstanding as follows (in thousands):

	Twelve Weeks Ended		Twenty-eight Weeks Ended	
	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017
Basic weighted average shares outstanding	12,982	12,896	12,979	12,872
Dilutive effect of stock options and awards	—	112	101	99
Diluted weighted average shares outstanding	12,982	13,008	13,080	12,971
Awards excluded due to anti-dilutive effect on diluted earnings per share	344	169	298	317

Table of Contents

5. Other Charges

Other charges consist of the following (in thousands):

	Twelve Weeks Ended		Twenty-eight Weeks Ended	
	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017
Asset impairment	\$9,643	\$1,584	\$9,643	\$1,584
Litigation contingencies	—	—	4,000	—
Spiral menu disposal	506	—	506	—
Reorganization costs	466	—	2,753	—
Other charges	\$10,615	\$1,584	\$16,902	\$1,584

In second quarter 2018, the Company determined eight Company-owned restaurants were impaired and recognized a non-cash impairment charge of \$9.6 million. In the second quarter of 2017, the Company determined five Company-owned restaurants were impaired and recognized a non-cash impairment charge of \$1.6 million. The Company recognized the impairment charges resulting from the continuing and projected future results of these restaurants, primarily through projected cash flows.

6. Borrowings

Borrowings as of July 15, 2018 and December 31, 2017 are summarized below (in thousands):

	July 15, 2018	December 31, 2017
Revolving credit facility and other long-term debt	\$221,375	\$266,375
Capital lease obligations	10,567	10,938
Total debt	231,942	277,313
Less: Current portion	(763)	(741)
Long-term debt	\$231,179	\$276,572

On June 30, 2016, the Company entered into a credit facility (the "Credit Facility"), which provides for a \$400 million revolving line of credit with a sublimit for the issuance of up to \$25 million in letters of credit and swingline loans up to \$15 million. On April 13, 2017, the Company entered into the first amendment (the "Amendment") to the Credit Facility. The Amendment increased the lease adjusted leverage ratio to 5.25x through October 1, 2017 before stepping down to 5.0x through July 15, 2018 and returning to 4.75x thereafter. The Amendment also provides for additional pricing tiers that increase LIBOR spread rates and commitment fees to the extent the Company's lease adjusted leverage ratio exceeds 4.75x, in addition to revising terms for permitted acquisitions and investments. The Amendment is effective through October 7, 2018 and is cancelable at the Company's discretion. Upon termination of the Amendment, the terms of the Credit Facility executed on June 30, 2016 remain effective.

The Credit Facility matures on June 30, 2021. As of July 15, 2018, the Company had outstanding borrowings under the Credit Facility of \$220.5 million, in addition to amounts issued under letters of credit of \$7.6 million, which reduced the amount available under the facility but were not recorded as debt. As of December 31, 2017, the Company had outstanding borrowings under the Credit Facility of \$265.5 million, in addition to amounts issued under letters of credit of \$7.6 million.

Loan origination costs associated with the Credit Facility are included as deferred costs in Other assets, net in the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheets. Unamortized debt issuance costs were \$2.0 million and \$2.4 million as of July 15, 2018 and December 31, 2017.

7. Fair Value Measurements

Assets and Liabilities Measured at Fair Value on a Recurring Basis

The carrying amounts of the Company's cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, and accounts payable approximate fair value due to the short term nature or maturity of the instruments.

Table of Contents

The following tables present the Company's assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of July 15, 2018 and December 31, 2017 (in thousands):

	July 15, 2018			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
Assets:				
Investments in rabbi trust	\$ 8,774	\$8,774	\$ —	—
Total assets measured at fair value	\$ 8,774	\$8,774	\$ —	—

	December 31, 2017			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
Assets:				
Investments in rabbi trust	\$ 9,292	\$9,292	\$ —	—
Total assets measured at fair value	\$ 9,292	\$9,292	\$ —	—

Assets and Liabilities Measured at Fair Value on a Nonrecurring Basis

Assets and liabilities recognized or disclosed at fair value on the consolidated financial statements on a nonrecurring basis include items such as property, plant and equipment, goodwill, and other intangible assets. These assets are measured at fair value if determined to be impaired.

As of July 15, 2018 and December 31, 2017, the Company measured non-financial assets for impairment using continuing and projected future cash flows, as discussed in Note 5, Other Charges, which were based on significant inputs not observable in the market and thus represented a level 3 fair value measurement.

Disclosures of Fair Value of Other Assets and Liabilities

The Company's liabilities under its Credit Facility and capital leases are carried at historical cost in the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheets. Both the Credit Facility and the Company's capital lease obligations are considered to be level 2 instruments. The carrying value of the Credit Facility approximates fair value as the interest rate on this instrument approximates current market rates. For disclosure purposes, the Company estimated the fair value of the capital lease obligations using discounted cash flow analysis based on market rates obtained from independent third parties for similar types of debt.

The following table presents the carrying value and estimated fair value of the Company's capital lease obligations as of July 15, 2018 and December 31, 2017 (in thousands):

	July 15, 2018		December 31, 2017	
	Carrying Value	Estimated Fair Value	Carrying Value	Estimated Fair Value
Capital lease obligations	\$10,567	\$10,879	\$10,938	\$11,563

8. Commitments and Contingencies

In the normal course of business, there are various claims in process, matters in litigation, and other contingencies. These include employment-related claims and claims alleging illness, injury, or other food quality, health, or operational issues. Evaluating contingencies related to litigation is a complex process involving subjective judgment on the potential outcome of future events, and the ultimate resolution of litigated claims may differ from our current analysis. We review the adequacy of accruals and disclosures pertaining to litigation matters each quarter in consultation with legal counsel, and we assess the probability and range of possible losses associated with contingencies for potential accrual in the consolidated financial statements. While it is not possible to predict the outcome of these claims with certainty, management is of the opinion that adequate provision for potential losses associated with these matters has been made in the financial statements.

During the twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018, the Company recorded \$4.0 million of litigation contingencies for employment-related claims. Refer to Note 5, Other Charges.

9. Subsequent Events

On August 9, 2018, the Company's board of directors authorized an increase to the Company's share repurchase program of approximately \$21 million to a total of \$75 million of the Company's common stock. The share repurchase

authorization was effective as of August 9, 2018, and will terminate upon completing repurchases of \$75 million of common stock unless otherwise terminated by the board.

Table of Contents

ITEM 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations provides a narrative of our financial performance and condition that should be read in conjunction with the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements. All comparisons under this heading between 2018 and 2017 refer to the twelve and twenty-eight week periods ending July 15, 2018 and July 9, 2017, unless otherwise indicated.

Overview

Red Robin Gourmet Burgers, Inc., a Delaware corporation, together with its subsidiaries ("Red Robin," "we," "us," "our" or the "Company"), primarily develops, operates, and franchises full-service restaurants with 572 locations in North America. As of July 15, 2018, the Company operated 484 Company-owned restaurants located in 44 states and two Canadian provinces. The Company also had 88 franchised full-service restaurants in 16 states as of July 15, 2018. The Company operates its business as one operating and one reportable segment.

The following summarizes the operational and financial highlights during the twelve and twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018:

Financial performance.

Restaurant revenue decreased \$2.0 million, or 0.6%, to \$310.4 million for the twelve weeks ended July 15, 2018, as compared to the twelve weeks ended July 9, 2017, primarily due to a \$7.9 million, or 2.6%, decrease in comparable restaurant revenue and a \$1.0 million decrease from closed restaurants, partially offset by a \$6.6 million increase in revenue from newly opened restaurants and a \$0.3 million favorable foreign currency exchange impact. Restaurant revenue decreased \$0.7 million, or 0.1% to \$725.1 million for the twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018, as compared to the twenty-eight weeks ended July 9, 2017, primarily due to a \$11.7 million, or 1.7% decrease in comparable restaurant revenue and a \$2.3 million decrease from closed restaurants, partially offset by a \$12.4 million increase in revenue from newly opened restaurants and a \$0.9 million favorable foreign currency exchange impact. For the full year 2018, we expect total revenues to range from \$1.350 billion to \$1.365 billion, including a comparable restaurant revenue decrease of 1.0% to 2.0%.

Restaurant operating costs, as a percentage of restaurant revenue, increased 150 basis points to 80.7% for the twelve weeks ended July 15, 2018, as compared to 79.2% for the twelve weeks ended July 9, 2017. For the twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018, restaurant operating costs, as a percentage of revenue, increased 140 basis points to 80.3%, as compared to 78.9% for the same period in 2017. The increases were due to higher food and beverage costs, other operating costs, and occupancy costs, as a percentage of restaurant revenue, offset by a decrease in labor costs as a percentage of restaurant revenue.

Net loss was \$1.9 million for the twelve weeks ended July 15, 2018 compared to \$6.9 million net income for the twelve weeks ended July 9, 2017. Diluted loss per share was \$0.14 for the twelve weeks ended July 15, 2018, as compared to diluted earnings per share of \$0.53 for the twelve weeks ended July 9, 2017. Excluding the impact of \$0.54 per diluted share for asset impairment, \$0.03 per diluted share for reorganization costs, and \$0.03 per diluted share for the disposal of spiral menus, net income per diluted share for the twelve weeks ended July 15, 2018 was \$0.46. Excluding the impact of \$0.08 per diluted share for asset impairment, net income per diluted share for the twelve weeks ended July 9, 2017 was \$0.61. Net income was \$2.5 million for the twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018 compared to \$18.5 million for the twenty-eight weeks ended July 9, 2017. Diluted earnings per share was \$0.19 for the twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018, as compared to diluted earnings per share of \$1.43 for the same period in 2017. Excluding the impact of \$0.54 per diluted share for asset impairment, \$0.23 per diluted share for litigation contingencies, \$0.16 per diluted share for reorganization costs, and \$0.03 per diluted share for the disposal of spiral menus, net income per diluted share for the twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018 was \$1.15. Excluding the impact of \$0.07 per diluted share for asset impairment, net income per diluted share for the twenty-eight weeks ended July 9, 2017 was \$1.50. For the full year 2018, we expect earnings per diluted share to range from \$1.80 to \$2.20.

Marketing. Our Red Robin Royalty™ loyalty program operates in all our U.S. and Canadian Company-owned Red Robin restaurants and has been rolled out to most of our franchised restaurants. We engage our guests through Red Robin Royalty with offers designed to increase frequency of visits as a key part of our overall marketing strategy. We also inform enrolled guests early about new menu items to generate awareness and trial of these offerings. Our media

buying approach is concentrated on generating significant reach and frequency while on-air. In addition, we use digital, social, and earned media to target and more effectively reach specific segments of our guest base.

12

Table of Contents

Restaurant Development. During the twelve weeks ended July 15, 2018, we opened two Red Robin restaurants. Our franchisees opened one Red Robin restaurant during second quarter 2018. The Company plans to open two Red Robin restaurants and our franchisees plan to open two Red Robin restaurants during the remainder of 2018.

Restaurant Data

The following table details restaurant unit data for our Company-owned and franchised locations for the periods indicated:

	Twelve Weeks Ended July 15, 2018		Twenty-eight Weeks Ended July 9, 2017	
Company-owned:				
Beginning of period	484	469	480	465
Opened during the period	2	3	6	9
Acquired from franchisees	—	—	—	—
Closed during the period	(2)	—	(2)	(2)
End of period	484	472	484	472
Franchised:				
Beginning of period	87	87	86	86
Opened during the period	1	—	2	1
Sold or closed during the period	—	(1)	—	(1)
End of period	88	86	88	86
Total number of restaurants	572	558	572	558

Table of Contents

Results of Operations

Operating results for each fiscal period presented below are expressed as a percentage of total revenues, except for the components of restaurant operating costs, which are expressed as a percentage of restaurant revenue.

This information has been prepared on a basis consistent with our audited 2017 annual financial statements, with the exception of changes made due to the adoption of Topic 606, and, in the opinion of management, includes all adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring adjustments, necessary for a fair presentation of the information for the periods presented. Our operating results may fluctuate significantly as a result of a variety of factors, and operating results for any period presented are not necessarily indicative of results for a full fiscal year.

	Twelve Weeks Ended		Twenty-eight Weeks Ended	
	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017
Revenues:				
Restaurant revenue	98.4 %	98.4 %	98.4 %	98.4 %
Franchise royalties, fees, and other revenues	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6
Total revenues	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Costs and expenses:				
Restaurant operating costs (exclusive of depreciation and amortization shown separately below):				
Cost of sales	24.1	23.7	23.9	23.2
Labor	34.3	34.7	34.4	35.0
Other operating	13.7	12.8	13.5	12.7
Occupancy	8.5	8.0	8.5	8.0
Total restaurant operating costs	80.7	79.2	80.3	78.9
Depreciation and amortization	7.1	6.7	7.0	6.7
Selling, general, and administrative	11.3	11.4	11.1	11.5
Pre-opening costs	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.4
Other charges	3.4	0.5	2.3	0.2
Income (loss) from operations	(1.3)	3.0	0.4	3.6
Interest expense, net and other	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7
(Loss) income before income taxes	(2.1)	2.2	(0.4)	2.9
(Benefit) provision for income taxes	(1.5)	—	(0.7)	0.4
Net income (loss)	(0.6)%	2.2 %	0.3 %	2.5 %

Certain percentage amounts in the table above do not total due to rounding as well as restaurant operating costs being expressed as a percentage of restaurant revenue and not total revenues.

Table of Contents

Revenues

(Revenues in thousands)	Twelve Weeks Ended			Twenty-eight Weeks Ended		
	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017	Percent Change	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017	Percent Change
Restaurant revenue	\$310,392	\$312,351	(0.6)%	\$725,094	\$725,802	(0.1)%
Franchise and other revenue	4,996	4,959	0.7%	11,813	12,138	(2.7)%
Total revenues	\$315,388	\$317,310	(0.6)%	\$736,907	\$737,940	(0.1)%
Average weekly sales volumes in Company-owned restaurants ⁽¹⁾	\$53,341	\$55,288	(3.5)%	\$53,548	\$55,403	(3.3)%
Total operating weeks	5,819	5,655	2.9%	13,541	13,117	3.2%
Restaurant revenue per square foot	\$104	\$106	(1.9)%	\$243	\$247	(1.6)%

Calculated using constant currency rates. Using historical currency rates, the average weekly sales per unit for the twelve and twenty-eight weeks ended July 9, 2017 for Company-owned restaurants was \$55,234 and \$55,333. The Company calculates non-GAAP constant currency average weekly sales per unit by translating prior year local currency average weekly sales per unit to U.S. dollars based on current quarter average exchange rates. The Company considers non-GAAP constant currency average weekly sales per unit to be a useful metric to investors and management as they facilitate a more useful comparison of current performance to historical performance.

(1)

Restaurant revenue for the twelve weeks ended July 15, 2018, which comprises primarily food and beverage sales, decreased \$2.0 million, or 0.6%, as compared to second quarter 2017. The decrease was due to a \$7.9 million, or 2.6% decrease in comparable restaurant revenue and a \$1.0 million decrease from closed restaurants, offset by a \$6.6 million increase in revenue from newly opened restaurants and a \$0.3 million favorable foreign currency exchange impact. The comparable restaurant revenue decrease was driven by a 1.9% decrease in average guest check and a 0.7% decrease in guest counts. The decrease in average guest check resulted from a 2.4% decrease in menu mix offset by a 0.5% increase in pricing. The decrease in menu mix is the result of our differentiated strategy to drive traffic growth through everyday affordability. Although our comparable restaurant guest counts are down 0.7%, we outperformed the casual dining sector by 160 basis points in the second quarter of 2018, as measured by Black Box Intelligence. We are focusing on opportunities to improve our service execution, which we believe will drive increased guest counts and comparable restaurant revenue increases.

Restaurant revenue for the twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018 decreased \$0.7 million, or 0.1% as compared to the same period in 2017. The decrease was due to a \$11.7 million, or 1.7% decrease in comparable sales and a \$2.3 million decrease from closed restaurants, offset by a \$12.4 million increase in revenue from newly opened restaurants and a \$0.9 million favorable foreign currency exchange impact. The comparable restaurant revenue decrease was driven by a 1.5% decrease in average guest check and a 0.2% decrease in guest counts. The decrease in average guest check resulted from a 2.3% decrease in menu mix offset by a 0.8% increase in pricing.

Average weekly sales volumes represent the total restaurant revenue for all Company-owned Red Robin restaurants for each time period presented, divided by the number of operating weeks in the period. Comparable restaurant revenues include those restaurants that are in the comparable base at the end of each period presented. New restaurants are restaurants that are open but not included in the comparable category because they have not operated for five full quarters. Fluctuations in average weekly net sales volumes for Company-owned restaurants reflect the effect of comparable restaurant revenue changes as well as the performance of new and acquired restaurants during the period and the average square footage of our restaurants.

Franchise and other revenue remained flat for the twelve weeks ended July 15, 2018 compared to the twelve weeks ended July 9, 2017 and decreased \$0.3 million for the twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018 compared to the twenty-eight weeks ended July 9, 2017, primarily due to a decrease in gift card breakage. Our franchisees reported a comparable restaurant revenue increase of 1.2% for the twelve weeks ended July 15, 2018 compared to the twelve weeks ended July 9, 2017 and an increase of 0.2% for the twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018 compared to the twenty-eight weeks ended July 9, 2017.

Cost of Sales

(In thousands, except percentages)	Twelve Weeks Ended			Twenty-eight Weeks Ended		
	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017	Percent Change	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017	Percent Change
Cost of sales	\$74,874	\$73,903	1.3 %	\$173,389	\$168,510	2.9 %
As a percent of restaurant revenue	24.1 %	23.7 %	0.4 %	23.9 %	23.2 %	0.7 %

Cost of sales, which comprises food and beverage costs, is variable and generally fluctuates with sales volume. Cost of

Table of Contents

sales as a percentage of restaurant revenue increased 40 basis points for the twelve weeks ended July 15, 2018 as compared to the same period in 2017. For the twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018, cost of sales as a percentage of revenue increased 70 basis points as compared to the twenty-eight weeks ended July 9, 2017. The increases were mainly driven by the higher tavern mix and lower non-alcoholic beverage mix, and the higher cost of steak fries.

Labor

(In thousands, except percentages)	Twelve Weeks Ended			Twenty-eight Weeks Ended		
	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017	Percent Change	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017	Percent Change
Labor	\$106,476	\$108,422	(1.8)%	\$249,491	\$253,941	(1.8)%
As a percent of restaurant revenue	34.3	% 34.7	% (0.4)%	34.4	% 35.0	% (0.6)%

Labor costs include restaurant-level hourly wages and management salaries as well as related taxes and benefits. For the twelve weeks ended July 15, 2018, labor as a percentage of restaurant revenue decreased 40 basis points compared to the same period in 2017. For the twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018, labor as a percentage of restaurant revenue decreased 60 basis points compared to the same period in 2017. The decreases were primarily driven by labor model changes, partially offset by increases in minimum wage rates in certain jurisdictions and management salaries.

Other Operating

(In thousands, except percentages)	Twelve Weeks Ended			Twenty-eight Weeks Ended		
	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017	Percent Change	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017	Percent Change
Other operating	\$42,668	\$40,057	6.5 %	\$97,693	\$92,121	6.0 %
As a percent of restaurant revenue	13.7	% 12.8	% 0.9 %	13.5	% 12.7	% 0.8 %

Other operating costs include costs such as equipment repairs and maintenance costs, restaurant supplies, utilities, restaurant technology, and other miscellaneous costs. For the twelve weeks ended July 15, 2018, other operating costs as a percentage of restaurant revenue increased 90 basis points as compared to the same period in 2017. For the twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018, other operating costs as a percentage of revenue increased 80 basis points. The increases were primarily due to higher costs of restaurant supplies, restaurant technology, third-party delivery fees, partially offset by a decrease in janitorial costs.

Occupancy

(In thousands, except percentages)	Twelve Weeks Ended			Twenty-eight Weeks Ended		
	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017	Percent Change	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017	Percent Change
Occupancy	\$26,460	\$25,140	5.3 %	\$61,470	\$58,259	5.5 %
As a percent of restaurant revenue	8.5	% 8.0	% 0.5 %	8.5	% 8.0	% 0.5 %

Occupancy costs include fixed rents, property taxes, common area maintenance charges, general liability insurance, contingent rents, and other property costs. Occupancy costs incurred prior to opening our new restaurants are included in pre-opening costs. For the twelve and twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018, occupancy costs as a percentage of restaurant revenue increased 50 basis points over the prior year. The increases were primarily driven by an increase in fixed rents, property taxes, and general liability insurance costs. Our fixed rents for the twelve weeks ended July 15, 2018 and July 9, 2017 were \$17.7 million and \$17.2 million, an increase of \$0.5 million due to 14 net additional locations opened since second quarter 2017. Our fixed rents for the twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018 and July 9, 2017 were \$41.2 million and \$39.7 million, an increase of \$1.5 million due to 21 net additional locations opened since the fourth quarter of 2016.

Depreciation and Amortization

(In thousands, except percentages)	Twelve Weeks Ended			Twenty-eight Weeks Ended		
	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017	Percent Change	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017	Percent Change
Depreciation and amortization	\$22,323	\$21,173	5.4 %	\$51,516	\$49,217	4.7 %
As a percent of total revenues	7.1	% 6.7	% 0.4 %	7.0	% 6.7	% 0.3 %

Depreciation and amortization includes depreciation on capital expenditures for restaurants and corporate assets as well

16

Table of Contents

as amortization of acquired franchise rights, leasehold interests, and certain liquor licenses. For the twelve weeks ended July 15, 2018, depreciation and amortization expense increased \$1.2 million or 5.4% over the prior year. For the twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018, depreciation and amortization expense increased \$2.3 million or 4.7% over the prior year. The increases were primarily related to new restaurants opened since second quarter 2017 and new restaurant technology implemented beginning in third quarter 2017.

Selling, General, and Administrative

(In thousands, except percentages)	Twelve Weeks Ended			Twenty-eight Weeks Ended		
	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017	Percent Change	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017	Percent Change
Selling, general, and administrative	\$35,617	\$36,288	(1.8)%	\$81,935	\$84,252	(2.8)%
As a percent of total revenues	11.3 %	11.4 %	(0.1)%	11.1 %	11.5 %	(0.4)%

Selling, general, and administrative costs include all corporate and administrative functions. Components of this category include marketing and advertising costs; corporate, regional, and franchise support salaries and benefits; travel; professional and consulting fees; corporate information systems; legal expenses; office rent; training; and board of directors expenses.

Selling, general, and administrative costs in the twelve weeks ended July 15, 2018 decreased \$0.7 million or 1.8% as compared to the same period in 2017. The decrease was primarily due to decreases in incentive compensation, corporate marketing, and salaries related to the reorganization in first quarter 2018. For the twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018, selling, general, and administrative costs decreased \$2.3 million or 2.8%. The decrease was primarily due to decreases in incentive compensation, professional services, corporate marketing, and salaries related to the reorganization in first quarter 2018, offset by an increase in local marketing costs.

Pre-opening Costs

(In thousands, except percentages)	Twelve Weeks Ended			Twenty-eight Weeks Ended		
	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017	Percent Change	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017	Percent Change
Pre-opening costs	\$569	\$1,377	(58.7)%	\$1,706	\$3,232	(47.2)%
As a percent of total revenues	0.2 %	0.4 %	(0.2)%	0.2 %	0.4 %	(0.2)%

Pre-opening costs, which are expensed as incurred, comprise the costs of labor, hiring, and training the initial work force for our new restaurants; occupancy costs incurred prior to opening; travel expenses for our training teams; the cost of food and beverages used in training; licenses and marketing; supply costs; and other direct costs related to the opening of new restaurants. Our pre-opening costs fluctuate from period to period, depending upon, but not limited to, the number of restaurant openings, the size of the restaurants being opened, and the location of the restaurants.

Pre-opening costs for any given quarter will typically include expenses associated with restaurants opened during the quarter as well as expenses related to restaurants opening in subsequent quarters.

Pre-opening costs decreased \$0.8 million for the twelve weeks ended July 15, 2018, and decreased \$1.5 million for the twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018. The decreases were primarily due to fewer restaurant openings during the twelve and twenty-eight week periods ended July 15, 2018 as compared to the same periods in 2017.

Interest Expense, Net and Other

Interest expense, net and other was \$2.4 million for the twelve weeks ended July 15, 2018, a decrease of \$0.1 million, or 2.8%, from the same period in 2017. Interest expense, net and other was \$5.8 million for the twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018, an increase of \$0.4 million, or 6.5% from the same period in 2017. The increase was primarily related to recognizing a loss on the Company's deferred compensation plan assets during first quarter 2018 compared to a gain in the same period a year ago. Our weighted average interest rate was 4.5% and 4.3% for the twelve and twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018, as compared to 3.7% and 3.4% for the twelve weeks and twenty-eight weeks ended July 9, 2017.

Provision for Income Taxes

The effective tax rate for the twelve weeks ended July 15, 2018 was a 71.6% benefit, compared to a 0.3% benefit for the twelve weeks ended July 9, 2017. The effective tax rate for the twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018 and July 9, 2017 was a 183.9% benefit and a 13.5% expense. The change in both the twelve and twenty-eight week effective

tax rates are primarily due to the decrease in income as well as the decrease in the federal statutory rate from 35% to 21% in the first quarter of 2018 compared to the same period a year ago.

Table of Contents

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Cash and cash equivalents increased \$4.2 million to \$21.9 million at July 15, 2018, from \$17.7 million at the beginning of the fiscal year. We expect to continue to reinvest available cash flows from operations to pay down debt, maintain existing restaurants and infrastructure, repurchase our common stock, develop new restaurants, and execute our long-term strategic initiatives.

Cash Flows

The table below summarizes our cash flows from operating, investing, and financing activities for each period presented (in thousands):

	Twenty-eight Weeks Ended	
	July 15, 2018	July 9, 2017
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$77,020	\$104,725
Net cash used in investing activities	(27,204)	(41,734)
Net cash used in financing activities	(44,638)	(54,652)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash	(996)	108
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	\$4,182	\$8,447

Operating Cash Flows

Net cash flows provided by operating activities decreased \$27.7 million to \$77.0 million for the twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018. The decrease was primarily driven by a \$14.6 million increase in payments to vendors, a \$9.9 million decrease in cash generated from restaurant operations, a \$8.2 million increase in bonus payout, and a \$2.0 million increase in reorganization costs, partially offset by a \$5.4 million returned vendor deposit and \$2.1 million in additional receipts from gift cards and miscellaneous receivables.

Investing Cash Flows

Net cash flows used in investing activities decreased \$14.5 million to \$27.2 million for the twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018, as compared to \$41.7 million for the same period in 2017. The decrease is primarily due to decreased investment in new restaurant openings and restaurant remodels.

The following table lists the components of our capital expenditures, net of currency translation effect, for the twelve weeks ended July 15, 2018 (in thousands):

	Twenty-eight Weeks Ended July 15, 2018
Restaurant maintenance capital and other	\$ 11,987
New restaurants	8,006
Investment in technology infrastructure and other	7,326
Total capital expenditures	\$ 27,319

Financing Cash Flows

Cash used in financing activities decreased \$10.0 million to \$44.6 million for the twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018, as compared to the same period in 2017. The decrease primarily resulted from a \$11.2 million decrease in net repayments made on long-term debt and a \$0.7 million decrease in debt issuance costs offset by a \$1.9 million decrease in net cash proceeds received from the exercise of employee stock options and purchase plan.

Credit Facility

On June 30, 2016, the Company entered into a credit facility (the "Credit Facility"), which provides for a \$400 million revolving line of credit with a sublimit for the issuance of up to \$25 million in letters of credit and swingline loans up to \$15 million. On April 13, 2017, the Company entered into a first amendment (the "Amendment") to the Credit Facility. The Amendment increased the lease adjusted leverage ratio to 5.25x through October 1, 2017 before stepping down to 5.0x through July 15, 2018 and returning to 4.75x thereafter. The Amendment also provides for additional pricing tiers that increase LIBOR spread rates and commitment fees to the extent the Company's lease

adjusted leverage ratio exceeds 4.75x, in addition to revising terms for permitted acquisitions and investments. The Amendment is effective through October 7, 2018 and is

18

Table of Contents

cancelable at the Company's discretion. Upon termination of the Amendment, the terms of the Credit Facility executed on June 30, 2016 remain effective. As of July 15, 2018, the Company's lease adjusted leverage ratio was 3.94x.

The Credit Facility matures on June 30, 2021. Borrowings under the Credit Facility are secured by first priority liens and security interests in substantially all of the Company's assets, including the capital stock of certain Company subsidiaries. Borrowings are available for financing activities including restaurant construction costs, working capital, and general corporate purposes, including, among other uses, to refinance certain indebtedness, permitted acquisitions, and redemption of capital stock. We do not believe any of our lenders will be unable to fulfill their lending commitments under our Credit Facility. Loan origination costs associated with the Credit Facility are included as deferred costs in Other assets, net in the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheet. As of July 15, 2018, the Company had outstanding borrowings under the Credit Facility of \$220.5 million, in addition to amounts issued under letters of credit of \$7.6 million, which reduce the amount available under the Credit Facility but are not recorded as debt.

Covenants. We are subject to a number of customary covenants under our Credit Facility, including limitations on additional borrowings, acquisitions, stock repurchases, sales of assets, and dividend payments. As of July 15, 2018, we were in compliance with all debt covenants.

Debt Outstanding. Total debt and capital lease obligations outstanding decreased \$45.4 million to \$231.9 million at July 15, 2018, from \$277.3 million at December 31, 2017, primarily due to net repayments of \$45.0 million on the Credit Facility during the twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018.

Share Repurchase. On August 9, 2018, the Company's board of directors authorized an increase to the Company's share repurchase program of approximately \$21 million to a total of \$75 million of the Company's common stock. The share repurchase authorization was effective as of August 9, 2018, and will terminate upon completing repurchases of \$75 million of common stock unless otherwise terminated by the board. Pursuant to the repurchase program, purchases may be made from time to time at the Company's discretion and the Company is not obligated to acquire any particular amount of common stock.

We typically maintain current liabilities in excess of our current assets which results in a working capital deficit. We are able to operate with a working capital deficit because restaurant sales are primarily conducted on a cash or credit card basis. Rapid turnover of inventory results in limited investment in inventories, and cash from sales is usually received before related payables for food, supplies, and payroll become due. In addition, receipts from the sale of gift cards are received well in advance of related redemptions. Rather than maintain higher cash balances that would result from this pattern of operating cash flows, we typically utilize operating cash flows in excess of those required for currently-maturing liabilities to pay for capital expenditures, debt repayment, or to repurchase stock. When necessary, we utilize our revolving credit facility to satisfy short-term liquidity requirements. We believe our future cash flows generated from restaurant operations combined with our remaining borrowing capacity under the Credit Facility will be sufficient to satisfy any working capital deficits and our planned capital expenditures.

Inflation

The primary inflationary factors affecting our operations are food, labor costs, energy costs, and materials used in the construction of new restaurants. A large number of our restaurant personnel are paid at rates based on the applicable minimum wage, and increases in the minimum wage rates have directly affected our labor costs in recent years. Many of our leases require us to pay taxes, maintenance, repairs, insurance, and utilities, all of which are generally subject to inflationary increases. We believe labor cost inflation along with food cost inflation due primarily to potatoes and ground beef had a negative impact on our financial condition and results of operations during the twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018. Uncertainties related to fluctuations in costs, including energy costs, commodity prices, annual indexed or potential minimum wage increases, and construction materials make it difficult to predict what impact, if any, inflation may continue to have on our business, but it is anticipated inflation will have a negative impact on labor costs for the remainder of 2018.

Seasonality

Our business is subject to seasonal fluctuations. Historically, sales in most of our restaurants have been higher during the summer months and winter holiday season and lower during the fall season. As a result, our quarterly and annual operating results and comparable restaurant revenue may fluctuate significantly as a result of seasonality.

Accordingly, results for any one quarter or year are not necessarily indicative of results to be expected for any other quarter or for any year, and comparable restaurant sales for any particular future period may decrease.

Off Balance Sheet Arrangements

Except for operating leases, primarily restaurant leases entered into in the normal course of business, we do not have any material off balance sheet arrangements.

Table of Contents

Contractual Obligations

There were no material changes outside the ordinary course of business to our contractual obligations since the filing of Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

Critical accounting policies and estimates are those we believe are both significant and that require us to make difficult, subjective, or complex judgments, often because we need to estimate the effect of inherently uncertain matters. We base our estimates and judgments on historical experiences and various other factors we believe to be appropriate under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates, including our estimates of future restaurant level cash flows, which are subject to the current economic environment, and we might obtain different results if we use different assumptions or conditions. We had no significant changes in our critical accounting policies and estimates which were disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017.

Recently Issued and Recently Adopted Accounting Standards

See Note 1, Basis of Presentation and Recent Accounting Pronouncements, of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements of this report.

Forward-Looking Statements

Certain information and statements contained in this report are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (the "PSLRA") codified at Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. This statement is included for purposes of complying with the safe harbor provisions of the PSLRA. Forward-looking statements include statements regarding our expectations, beliefs, intentions, plans, objectives, goals, strategies, future events, or performance and underlying assumptions and other statements which are other than statements of historical facts. These statements may be identified, without limitation, by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "anticipate," "assume," "believe," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "plan," "project," "may," "will," "would," and similar expressions. Certain forward-looking statements are included in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, principally in the sections captioned "Financial Statements" and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations". Forward-looking statements in this report include, among other things: our financial performance, including anticipated revenues, earnings and outlook, and comparable restaurant revenue; our marketing strategy and promotions; expected uses for available cash flow; capital investments; beliefs about the ability of our lenders to fulfill their lending commitments under our Credit Facility and about the sufficiency of future cash flows to satisfy any working capital deficit and planned capital expenditures; the anticipated effects of inflation on labor and commodity costs for 2018; and the effect of the adoption of new accounting standards on our financial and accounting systems.

Forward-looking statements are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those we express in these forward-looking statements. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, the following: the effectiveness of our business improvement initiatives, including the effectiveness of our affordability, service improvement and off-site initiatives; the ability to fulfill planned expansion; the effectiveness of our marketing campaigns; uncertainty regarding general economic conditions and economic recovery; concentration of restaurants in certain markets and lack of consumer awareness of our brand in new markets; changes in consumer disposable income, consumer spending trends and habits; the effectiveness of our information technology and new technology systems, including cyber security with respect to those systems; regional mall and lifestyle center traffic trends or other trends affecting traffic at our restaurants; increased competition and discounting in the casual-dining restaurant market; costs and availability of food and beverage inventory; changes in commodity prices, particularly ground beef; changes in labor and energy costs; limitations on the Company's ability to execute stock repurchases due to lack of available share or acceptable stock price levels or other market or Company-specific conditions; our ability to attract qualified managers and team members; changes in the availability under our Credit Facility or other access to capital; minimum wage increases; changes in health care and insurance costs; costs and other effects of legal claims by team members, franchisees, customers, vendors, stockholders, including relating fluctuations in our stock price, and others, including settlement of those claims; effectiveness of management strategies and decisions; weather conditions and related events in regions where our restaurants are operated; changes in accounting standards policies and practices or related interpretations by auditors or regulatory entities; and other

risk factors described from time to time in our SEC reports, including the Company's most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017, filed with the SEC on February 27, 2018.

Although we believe the expectations reflected in our forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, such expectations may prove to be materially incorrect due to known and unknown risks and uncertainties. All forward-looking statements speak only as of the date made. All subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements attributable to us, or persons acting on our behalf, are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements. Except as required by law,

Table of Contents

we undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances arising after the date on which it is made or to reflect the occurrence of anticipated or unanticipated events or circumstances.

ITEM 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

There has been no material change in the interest rate risk, foreign currency exchange risk, or commodity price risk since the filing of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017.

We continue to monitor our interest rate risk on an ongoing basis and may use interest rate swaps or similar instruments in the future to manage our exposure to interest rate changes related to our borrowings as the Company deems appropriate. As of July 15, 2018, we had \$220.5 million of borrowings subject to variable interest rates. A 1.0% change in the effective interest rate applied to these loans would have resulted in pre-tax interest expense fluctuation of \$2.2 million on an annualized basis.

The Company's restaurant menus are highly dependent upon a few select commodities, including ground beef, poultry, and potatoes. We may or may not have the ability to increase menu prices, or vary menu items, in response to food commodity price increases. A 1.0% increase in food costs would negatively impact cost of sales by approximately \$3.2 million on an annualized basis.

Table of Contents

ITEM 4. Controls and Procedures

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

The Company maintains disclosure controls and procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the Company's reports under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to the management of the Company ("Management"), including the Company's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO), as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. In designing and evaluating the disclosure controls and procedures, Management recognizes that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can only provide reasonable assurance of achieving the desired control objectives. The Company's CEO and CFO have concluded that, based upon the evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) or 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act), the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the end of the period covered by this report.

Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

There were no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the Company's most recent fiscal quarter that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

Table of Contents

PART II — OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1. Legal Proceedings

For a description of our legal proceedings, see Note 8, Commitments and Contingencies, of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements of this report.

23

Table of Contents

ITEM 1A. Risk Factors

A description of the risk factors associated with our business is contained in Item 1A, "Risk Factors," of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017 filed with the SEC on February 27, 2018. There have been no material changes to our Risk Factors disclosed in our 2017 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

24

Table of Contents

ITEM 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

During the twelve weeks ended July 15, 2018, the Company did not have any sales of securities in transactions that were not registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, that have not been reported in a Current Report on Form 8-K. On August 9, 2018, the Company's board of directors authorized an increase to the Company's share repurchase program of approximately \$21 million to a total of \$75 million of the Company's common stock.. The increased share repurchase authorization became effective on August 9, 2018, and will terminate upon completing repurchases of \$75 million of common stock unless otherwise terminated by the board. Purchases under the repurchase program may be made in open market or privately negotiated transactions, and may include transactions pursuant to a repurchase plan administered in accordance with Rules 10b5-1 and 10b-18 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Purchases may be made from time to time at the Company's discretion and the timing and amount of any share repurchases will be determined based on share price, market conditions, legal requirements, and other factors. The repurchase program does not obligate the Company to acquire any particular amount of common stock, and the Company may suspend or discontinue the repurchase program at any time. The Company did not repurchase any of its common stock during the twelve weeks ended July 15, 2018. Since February 11, 2016, when the share repurchase program was originally authorized, the Company has purchased 940,034 shares for a total of \$46.1 million. Prior to the increase in the share repurchase authorization, the program had a remaining authorized purchase limit of \$53.9 million as of July 15, 2018 and on August 9, 2018.

Table of Contents

ITEM 5. Other Information

In accordance with applicable SEC rules, the foregoing is intended to satisfy the Company's Item 5.02(e) Form 8-K reporting obligations by making timely disclosure in accordance with Item 5(a) of Form 10-Q.

On August 20, 2018, the Company entered into amendments to the employment agreements (the "Amended Employment Agreements") with each of the Company's named executive officers to remove the change in control benefit provided in each such agreement. Upon the effective date of the Employment Agreement Amendments, each named executive officer entered into a participation agreement and became a participant in the Company's Executive Change in Control Severance Plan (the "Executive CIC Severance Plan"), which is described further below. For each of the named executive officers, eligibility to participate in the Executive CIC Severance Plan was conditioned upon entering into his or her respective Amended Employment Agreements to remove the change in control benefit.

On August 14, 2018, the Company adopted the Executive CIC Severance Plan, which provides certain benefits to key management employees to promote the long-term financial interests of the Company and its shareholders by reducing the risk of departures and distractions of such employees in a change in control situation, which would be detrimental to the Company and its shareholders. Eligible employees include the Company's chief executive officer, executive vice presidents and senior vice presidents. In addition to the replacement of employment agreement provisions relating to change in control for the named executive officers as described above, the Executive CIC Severance Plan is intended to replace any prior change in control agreements or arrangements with other eligible participants.

The Executive CIC Severance Plan provides participants with certain payments and benefits upon a qualifying termination of employment within two years following a "change in control" (as defined in the CIC Severance Plan) of the Company. In the event the employment of any of the participants is terminated by the Company without "cause" or by the participant for "good reason" (each as defined in the Executive CIC Severance Plan) during such two-year period, such participant is entitled to receive the following payments and benefits:

payment, in cash, equal to the sum of (1) accrued but unpaid salary through the date of termination, (2) reimbursement for any unreimbursed business expenses incurred through the termination date, (3) any payments, benefits or fringe benefits to which the participant is entitled under the terms of any applicable compensation arrangement or benefit, equity or fringe benefit plan or program or grant or any other agreement, and (4) any annual bonus earned but unpaid with respect to the fiscal year ending on or preceding the termination date (which will be paid in a lump sum in cash when such annual bonus payment is regularly paid to similarly situated Company employees);

A lump sum payment, in cash, equal to the product of (a) the participant's annual base salary and the annual target bonus applicable to the participant, multiplied by (b) a "cash severance multiplier" (which in the case of the chief executive officer is 3, in the case of participants who are executive vice presidents is 2, and in the case of participants who are senior vice presidents is 1);

a lump sum payment of a prorated portion of the participant's target bonus for the year in which the termination occurs;

upon timely election of continuation coverage under COBRA by the participant, a cash lump sum equal to the product of (x) the portion of premiums of the participant's group health insurance, including coverage for the participant's eligible dependents, if any, that the Company paid immediately prior to the termination date and (y) (1) 24 in the case of the chief executive officer and any participating executive vice president and (2) 12 in the case of any participating senior vice president; and

all outstanding and unvested stock option and restricted stock awards subject solely to time-based vesting shall vest in full and any restrictions or forfeiture provisions applicable to restricted stock awards shall lapse, notwithstanding the provisions of any equity incentive plan or any award agreement(s) between the participant and the Company thereunder.

The Executive CIC Severance Plan provides that all severance payments and obligations of the Company are subject to receipt of a signed and irrevocable release of claims and restrictive covenants agreement.

The foregoing descriptions of (i) the Executive CIC Severance Plan is qualified in its entirety by the full text of the Executive CIC Severance Plan, a copy of which is filed as Exhibit 10.1 hereto and incorporated by reference herein and (ii) each of the Amended Employment Agreements is qualified in its entirety by the full text of the Employment Agreement Amendments, copies of which are filed as Exhibits 10.2-10.6 hereto and incorporated by reference herein.

Table of Contents

ITEM 6. Exhibits

Exhibit
Number Description

- 10.1 Red Robin Gourmet Burgers, Inc. Executive Change in Control Severance Plan dated August 14, 2018.
- 10.2 Amended and Restated Employment Agreement by and between Red Robin Gourmet Burgers, Inc. and Denny Marie Post, dated August 20, 2018.
- 10.3 Amended and Restated Employment Agreement by and between Red Robin Gourmet Burgers, Inc. and Guy J. Constant, dated August 20, 2018.
- 10.4 Amended and Restated Employment Agreement by and between Red Robin Gourmet Burgers, Inc. and Jonathan A. Muhtar, dated August 20, 2018.
- 10.5 Amended and Restated Employment Agreement by and between Red Robin Gourmet Burgers, Inc. and Carin L. Stutz, dated August 20, 2018.
- 10.6 Amended and Restated Employment Agreement by and between Red Robin Gourmet Burgers, Inc. and Michael L. Kaplan, dated August 20, 2018.
- 31.1 Rule 13a-14(a) Certification of Chief Executive Officer
- 31.2 Rule 13a-14(a) Certification of Chief Financial Officer
- 32.1 Section 1350 Certifications of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer

101 The following financial information from the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Red Robin Gourmet Burgers, Inc. for the quarter ended July 15, 2018, formatted in XBRL (eXtensible Business Reporting Language): (i) Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets at July 15, 2018 and December 31, 2017; (ii) Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations for the twelve and twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018 and July 9, 2017; (iii) Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income for the twelve and twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018 and July 9, 2017; (iv) Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the twenty-eight weeks ended July 15, 2018 and July 9, 2017; and (v) the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, tagged as blocks of text.

Table of Contents

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

RED ROBIN GOURMET

BURGERS, INC.

(Registrant)

August 22, 2018 By: /s/ Guy J. Constant

(Date) Guy J. Constant
(Chief Financial Officer)