

---

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

---

**FORM 10-Q**

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

**For the quarterly period ended March 23, 2012**

**OR**

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

**Commission file number 001-32514**

**DIAMONDROCK HOSPITALITY COMPANY**

**(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)**

**Maryland**  
**(State of Incorporation)**

**20-1180098**  
**(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)**

**3 Bethesda Metro Center, Suite 1500, Bethesda, Maryland**  
**(Address of Principal Executive Offices)**

**20814**  
**(Zip Code)**

**(240) 744-1150**  
**(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)**

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, or a smaller reporting company. See definition of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

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

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

The registrant had 167,918,292 shares of its \$0.01 par value common stock outstanding as of April 30, 2012.

---

**PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION****Item 1. Financial Statements (unaudited):**

Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets as of March 23, 2012 and December 31, 2011 1

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations for the Fiscal Quarters ended March 23, 2012 and March 25, 2011 2

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the Fiscal Quarters Ended March 23, 2012 and March 25, 2011 3

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements 5

**Item 2. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations** 16

**Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk** 28

**Item 4. Controls and Procedures** 29

**PART II. OTHER INFORMATION**

**Item 1. Legal Proceedings** 30

**Item 1A. Risk Factors** 30

**Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds** 30

**Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities** 30

**Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures** 30

**Item 5. Other Information** 30

**Item 6. Exhibits** 31

Exhibit 10.13

Exhibit 10.20

Exhibit 31.1

Exhibit 31.2

Exhibit 32.1

**PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION**
**Item I. Financial Statements**
**DIAMONDROCK HOSPITALITY COMPANY**
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

**As of March 23, 2012 and December 31, 2011**  
**(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)**

	<b>March 23, 2012</b>	<b>December 31, 2011</b>
	(Unaudited)	
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Property and equipment, at cost	\$ 2,673,080	\$ 2,667,682
Less: accumulated depreciation	(453,882)	(433,178)
	2,219,198	2,234,504
Assets held for sale	—	263,399
Deferred financing costs, net	9,697	5,869
Restricted cash	56,099	53,871
Due from hotel managers	51,674	50,728
Note receivable	54,788	54,788
Favorable lease assets, net	43,054	43,285
Prepaid and other assets	67,372	65,900
Cash and cash equivalents	128,570	26,291
Total assets	<b>\$ 2,630,452</b>	<b>\$ 2,798,635</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
<b>Liabilities:</b>		
Mortgage debt	\$ 903,331	\$ 762,933
Mortgage debt of assets held for sale	—	180,000
Senior unsecured credit facility	—	100,000
Total debt	903,331	1,042,933
Deferred income related to key money, net	24,445	24,593
Unfavorable contract liabilities, net	81,483	81,914
Due to hotel managers	41,740	41,676
Liabilities of assets held for sale	—	3,805
Dividends declared and unpaid	13,600	13,594
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	76,549	87,963
Total other liabilities	237,817	253,545
<b>Stockholders' Equity:</b>		
Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value; 10,000,000 shares authorized; no shares issued and outstanding	—	—
Common stock, \$0.01 par value; 200,000,000 shares authorized; 167,918,292 and 167,502,359 shares issued and outstanding at March 23, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively	1,679	1,675
Additional paid-in capital	1,706,490	1,708,427
Accumulated deficit	(218,865)	(207,945)
Total stockholders' equity	1,489,304	1,502,157
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	<b>\$ 2,630,452</b>	<b>\$ 2,798,635</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

**DIAMONDROCK HOSPITALITY COMPANY**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**  
**For the Fiscal Quarters Ended March 23, 2012 and March 25, 2011**  
**(in thousands, except per share amounts)**

	<b>Fiscal Quarter Ended</b>	
	<b>March 23, 2012</b>	<b>March 25, 2011</b>
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
<b>Revenues:</b>		
Rooms	\$ 83,388	\$ 69,283
Food and beverage	31,251	29,179
Other	6,783	5,291
Total revenues	121,422	103,753
<b>Operating Expenses:</b>		
Rooms	24,879	20,202
Food and beverage	23,844	22,588
Management fees	3,142	2,748
Other hotel expenses	49,003	41,399
Depreciation and amortization	20,518	18,549
Hotel acquisition costs	33	256
Corporate expenses	4,483	4,074
Total operating expenses	125,902	109,816
<b>Operating loss</b>	(4,480)	(6,063)
<b>Other Expenses (Income):</b>		
Interest income	(63)	(291)
Interest expense	11,468	8,818
Gain on early extinguishment of debt	(144)	—
Total other expenses	11,261	8,527
<b>Loss from continuing operations before income taxes</b>	(15,741)	(14,590)
Income tax benefit	5,774	3,727
<b>Loss from continuing operations</b>	(9,967)	(10,863)
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income taxes	12,582	(181)
<b>Net income (loss)</b>	\$ 2,615	\$ (11,044)
<b>Earnings (loss) per share:</b>		
Continuing operations	\$ (0.06)	\$ (0.07)
Discontinued operations	0.08	(0.00)
Basic and diluted earnings (loss) per share	\$ 0.02	\$ (0.07)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

**DIAMONDROCK HOSPITALITY COMPANY**

**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
**For the Fiscal Quarters Ended March 23, 2012 and March 25, 2011**  
(in thousands)

	Fiscal Quarter Ended	
	March 23, 2012	March 25, 2011
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>		
Net income (loss)	\$ 2,615	\$ (11,044)
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Real estate depreciation	20,518	21,352
Corporate asset depreciation as corporate expenses	22	19
Gain on sale of properties, net of tax	(10,017)	—
Gain on early extinguishment of debt	(144)	—
Non-cash ground rent	1,531	1,566
Non-cash financing costs, debt premium and interest rate cap as interest	486	393
Amortization of unfavorable contract liabilities	(432)	(426)
Amortization of deferred income	(210)	(130)
Stock-based compensation	940	936
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Prepaid expenses and other assets	902	666
Restricted cash	(13)	75
Due to/from hotel managers	(2,493)	(57)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(11,962)	(5,694)
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<b>1,743</b>	<b>7,656</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>		
Hotel capital expenditures	(6,791)	(7,882)
Net proceeds from sale of properties	92,631	—
Cash received from mortgage loan	—	100
Change in restricted cash	(2,853)	(21,460)
Purchase deposits	(1,485)	(20,000)
Receipt of deferred key money	62	—
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities</b>	<b>81,564</b>	<b>(49,242)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities:</b>		
Scheduled mortgage debt principal payments	(2,746)	(1,737)
Repurchase of common stock	(2,946)	(3,095)
Proceeds from sale of common stock, net	—	149,841
Deposit on mortgage loan financing	—	(1,125)
Proceeds from mortgage debt	170,368	—
Prepayment of mortgage debt	(26,963)	—
Draws on senior unsecured credit facility	40,000	—
Repayments of senior unsecured credit facility	(140,000)	—
Payment of financing costs	(4,350)	—
Purchase of interest rate cap	(934)	—
Payment of cash dividends	(13,457)	(77)
<b>Net cash provided by financing activities</b>	<b>18,972</b>	<b>143,807</b>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	102,279	102,221
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	26,291	84,201
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	<b>\$ 128,570</b>	<b>\$ 186,422</b>

**Supplemental Disclosure of Cash Flow Information:**

Cash paid for interest	\$	15,595	\$	11,725
Cash paid for income taxes	\$	204	\$	96
Capitalized interest	\$	271	\$	215
<b>Non-cash Financing Activities:</b>				
Unpaid dividends	\$	13,600	\$	—
Buyer assumption of mortgage debt on sale of hotels	\$	180,000	\$	—

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

## DIAMONDROCK HOSPITALITY COMPANY

### Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)

#### 1. Organization

DiamondRock Hospitality Company (the “Company” or “we”) is a lodging-focused real estate company that owns a portfolio of 23 premium hotels and resorts. We also hold the senior note on a mortgage loan secured an additional hotel and have the right to acquire, upon completion, a hotel under development. Our hotels are concentrated in key gateway cities and in destination resort locations and most are operated under a brand owned by one of the leading global lodging brand companies (Marriott International, Inc. (“Marriott”), Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc. (“Starwood”), or Hilton Worldwide (“Hilton”). We are an owner, as opposed to an operator, of the hotels in our portfolio. As an owner, we receive all of the operating profits or losses generated by our hotels after we pay fees to the hotel managers, which are based on the revenues and profitability of the hotels.

As of March 23, 2012, we owned 23 hotels with 10,406 rooms, located in the following markets: Atlanta, Georgia (2); Boston, Massachusetts; Charleston, South Carolina; Chicago, Illinois (2); Denver, Colorado (2); Fort Worth, Texas; Los Angeles, California (2); Minneapolis, Minnesota; New York, New York (4); Oak Brook, Illinois; Orlando, Florida; Salt Lake City, Utah; Sonoma, California; Washington D.C.; St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands; and Vail, Colorado. We also own a senior mortgage loan secured by a 443-room hotel located in Chicago, Illinois.

We conduct our business through a traditional umbrella partnership REIT, or UPREIT, in which our hotel properties are owned by our operating partnership, DiamondRock Hospitality Limited Partnership, or subsidiaries of our operating partnership. The Company is the sole general partner of the operating partnership and currently owns, either directly or indirectly, all of the limited partnership units of the operating partnership.

#### 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

##### *Basis of Presentation*

We have condensed or omitted certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements presented in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, or U.S. GAAP, in the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements. We believe the disclosures made are adequate to prevent the information presented from being misleading. However, the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto as of and for the year ended December 31, 2011, included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K filed on February 29, 2012.

In our opinion, the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements reflect all adjustments necessary to present fairly our financial position as of March 23, 2012, the results of our operations and cash flows for our fiscal quarters ended March 23, 2012 and March 25, 2011. Interim results are not necessarily indicative of full-year performance because of the impact of seasonal and short-term variations.

Our financial statements include all of the accounts of the Company and its subsidiaries in accordance with U.S. GAAP. All intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

If the Company determines that it has an interest in a variable interest entity within the meaning of the FASB ASC 810, *Consolidation*, the Company will consolidate the entity when it is determined to be the primary beneficiary of the entity.

##### *Reporting Periods*

The results we report in our condensed consolidated statements of operations are based on results of our hotels reported to us by our hotel managers. Our hotel managers use different reporting periods. Marriott, the manager of most of our properties, uses a fiscal year ending on the Friday closest to December 31 and reports 12 weeks of operations for each of the first three quarters and 16 or 17 weeks for the fourth quarter of the year for its domestic managed hotels. In contrast, Marriott, for its non-domestic hotels (including Frenchman’s Reef), Vail Resorts, manager of the Vail Marriott, Davidson Hotels & Resorts, manager of the Atlanta Westin North at Perimeter, Hilton Hotels Corporation, manager of the Conrad Chicago and Hilton Minneapolis, Westin Hotel Management, L.P., manager of the Westin Boston Waterfront Hotel, Alliance Hospitality Management, manager of the Hilton Garden Inn Chelsea/New York City, Sage Hospitality, manager of the JW Marriott Denver at Cherry Creek and the Courtyard Denver Downtown, and Highgate Hotels, manager of the Lexington Hotel New York, report results on a monthly basis. Additionally,

## Table of Contents

as a REIT, we are required by U.S. federal tax laws to report results on a calendar year basis. As a result, we have adopted the reporting periods used by Marriott for its domestic hotels, except that our fiscal year always ends on December 31 to comply with REIT rules. Our first three fiscal quarters end on the same day as Marriott's fiscal quarters but our fourth quarter ends on December 31 and the full year results, as reported in the statement of operations, always include the same number of days as the calendar year.

Two consequences of the reporting cycle we have adopted are: (1) quarterly start dates will usually differ between years, except for the first quarter which always commences on January 1, and (2) the first and fourth quarters of operations and year-to-date operations may not include the same number of days as reflected in prior years.

While the reporting calendar we adopted is more closely aligned with the reporting calendar used by the manager of most of our properties, one final consequence of the calendar is that we are unable to report any results for Frenchman's Reef, Vail Marriott, Atlanta Westin North at Perimeter, Conrad Chicago, Westin Boston Waterfront Hotel, Hilton Minneapolis, Hilton Garden Inn Chelsea/New York City, JW Marriott Denver at Cherry Creek, Courtyard Denver Downtown or Lexington Hotel New York for the month of operations that ends after our fiscal quarter-end because none of Westin Hotel Management, L.P., Hilton Hotels Corporation, Davidson Hotels & Resorts, Alliance Hospitality Management, Vail Resorts, Sage Hospitality, Highgate Hotels nor Marriott (with respect to Frenchman's Reef) make mid-month results available to us. As a result, our quarterly results of operations include results from these hotels as follows: first quarter (January and February), second quarter (March to May), third quarter (June to August) and fourth quarter (September to December). While this does not affect full-year results, it does affect the reporting of quarterly results.

### *Property and Equipment*

Investments in hotel properties, land, land improvements, building and furniture, fixtures and equipment and identifiable intangible assets are recorded at fair value upon acquisition. Property and equipment purchased after the hotel acquisition date is recorded at cost. Replacements and improvements are capitalized, while repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred. Upon the sale or retirement of a fixed asset, the cost and related accumulated depreciation is removed from the Company's accounts and any resulting gain or loss is included in the statements of operations.

Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets, generally 15 to 40 years for buildings, land improvements, and building improvements and one to ten years for furniture, fixtures and equipment. Leasehold improvements are amortized over the shorter of the lease term or the useful lives of the related assets.

We review our investments in hotel properties for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of the hotel properties may not be recoverable. Events or circumstances that may cause a review include, but are not limited to, adverse changes in the demand for lodging at the properties due to declining national or local economic conditions and/or new hotel construction in markets where the hotels are located. When such conditions exist, management performs an analysis to determine if the estimated undiscounted future cash flows from operations and the proceeds from the ultimate disposition of a hotel exceed its carrying value. If the estimated undiscounted future cash flows are less than the carrying amount of the asset, an adjustment to reduce the carrying amount to the related hotel's estimated fair market value is recorded and an impairment loss is recognized.

We will classify a hotel as held for sale in the period that we have made the decision to dispose of the hotel, a binding agreement to purchase the property has been signed under which the buyer has committed a significant amount of nonrefundable cash and no significant financing or other contingencies exist which could cause the transaction to not be completed in a timely manner. If these criteria are met, we will record an impairment loss if the fair value less costs to sell is lower than the carrying amount of the hotel and will cease recording depreciation expense. We will classify the loss, together with the related operating results, as discontinued operations on the statements of operations and classify the assets and related liabilities as held for sale on the balance sheet.

### *Note Receivable*

We initially record acquired notes receivable at cost. Notes receivable are evaluated for collectability and if collectability of the original amounts due is in doubt, the value is adjusted for impairment. Our impairment analysis considers the anticipated cash receipts as well as the underlying value of the collateral. If collectability is in doubt, the note is placed in non-accrual status. No interest is recorded on such notes until the timing and amounts of cash receipts can be reasonably estimated. We record cash payments received on non-accrual notes receivable as a reduction in basis. We continually assess the current facts and circumstances to determine whether we can reasonably estimate cash flows. If we can reasonably estimate the timing and amount of cash flows to be collected, then income recognition becomes possible.



## [Table of Contents](#)

### *Revenue Recognition*

Revenues from operations of the hotels are recognized when the services are provided. Revenues consist of room sales, golf sales, food and beverage sales, and other hotel department revenues, such as telephone and gift shop sales.

### *Earnings (Loss) Per Share*

Basic earnings (loss) per share is calculated by dividing net income (loss) by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted earnings (loss) per share is calculated by dividing net income (loss) by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the period plus other potentially dilutive securities such as stock grants or shares issuable in the event of conversion of operating partnership units. No adjustment is made for shares that are anti-dilutive during a period.

### *Comprehensive Income (Loss)*

We do not have any items of comprehensive income (loss) other than net income (loss). If we do incur any additional items of comprehensive income (loss), such that a statement of comprehensive income would be necessary, such statement will be reported as one statement with the consolidated statement of operations.

### *Stock-based Compensation*

We account for stock-based employee compensation using the fair value based method of accounting. We record the cost of awards with service or market conditions based on the grant-date fair value of the award. That cost is recognized over the period during which an employee is required to provide service in exchange for the award. No compensation cost is recognized for equity instruments for which employees do not render the requisite service.

### *Income Taxes*

We account for income taxes using the asset and liability method. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the estimated future tax consequences attributable to the differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates in effect for the year in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities from a change in tax rates is recognized in earnings in the period when the new rate is enacted.

We have elected to be treated as a REIT under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, which requires that we distribute at least 90% of our taxable income annually to our stockholders and comply with certain other requirements. In addition to paying federal and state taxes on any retained income, we may be subject to taxes on “built in gains” on sales of certain assets. Our taxable REIT subsidiaries will generally be subject to federal, state, local, and/or foreign income taxes.

In order for the income from our hotel property investments to constitute “rents from real properties” for purposes of the gross income tests required for REIT qualification, the income we earn cannot be derived from the operation of any of our hotels. Therefore, we lease each of our hotel properties to a wholly-owned subsidiary of Bloodstone TRS, Inc., our existing taxable REIT subsidiary, or TRS, except for the Frenchman’s Reef & Morning Star Marriott Beach Resort, which is owned by a Virgin Islands corporation, which we have elected to be treated as a TRS.

We had no accruals for tax uncertainties as of March 23, 2012 and December 31, 2011.

### *Fair Value Measurements*

In evaluating fair value, U.S. GAAP outlines a valuation framework and creates a fair value hierarchy that distinguishes between market assumptions based on market data (observable inputs) and a reporting entity’s own assumptions about market data (unobservable inputs). The hierarchy ranks the quality and reliability of inputs used to determine fair value, which are then classified and disclosed in one of the three categories. The three levels are as follows:

- Level 1 - Inputs are quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities
- Level 2 - Inputs include quoted prices in active markets for similar assets and liabilities, quoted prices for identical or similar assets in markets that are not active and model-derived valuations whose inputs are observable
- Level 3 - Model-derived valuations with unobservable inputs

## [Table of Contents](#)

### *Intangible Assets and Liabilities*

Intangible assets or liabilities are recorded on non-market contracts assumed as part of the acquisition of certain hotels. We review the terms of agreements assumed in conjunction with the purchase of a hotel to determine if the terms are favorable or unfavorable compared to an estimated market agreement at the acquisition date. Favorable lease assets or unfavorable contract liabilities are recorded at the acquisition date and amortized using the straight-line method over the term of the agreement. We do not amortize intangible assets with indefinite useful lives, but we review these assets for impairment annually or at interim periods if events or circumstances indicate that the asset may be impaired.

### *Straight-Line Rental Income and Expense*

We record rental income and expense on leases that provide for minimum rental payments that increase in pre-established amounts over the remaining term of the lease on a straight-line basis.

### *Concentration of Credit Risk*

Financial instruments that potentially subject the Company to significant concentrations of credit risk consist principally of our note receivable and cash and cash equivalents. We perform periodic evaluations of the underlying hotel property securing the note receivable. While the note receivable is currently in default, the value of the underlying hotel exceeds our carrying value of the note. See further discussion in Note 5. We maintain cash and cash equivalents with various financial institutions. We perform periodic evaluations of the relative credit standing of these financial institutions and limit the amount of credit exposure with any one institution.

### *Use of Estimates*

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with U.S. 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. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

### *Risks and Uncertainties*

The state of the overall economy can significantly impact hotel operational performance and thus, impact our financial position. Should any of our hotels experience a significant decline in operational performance, it may affect our ability to make distributions to our stockholders and service debt or meet other financial obligations.

## **3. Property and Equipment**

Property and equipment as of March 23, 2012 (unaudited) and December 31, 2011 consists of the following (in thousands):

	<b>March 23, 2012</b>	<b>December 31, 2011</b>
Land	\$ 321,892	\$ 321,892
Land improvements	7,994	7,994
Buildings	2,022,057	2,001,762
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	316,306	333,305
CIP and corporate office equipment	4,831	2,729
	<u>2,673,080</u>	<u>2,667,682</u>
Less: accumulated depreciation	(453,882)	(433,178)
	<u>\$ 2,219,198</u>	<u>\$ 2,234,504</u>

As of March 23, 2012, we had accrued capital expenditures of \$0.6 million. As of December 31, 2011, we had accrued capital expenditures of \$1.9 million.

## **4. Favorable Lease Assets**

In connection with the acquisition of certain hotels, we have recognized intangible assets for favorable ground leases and tenant leases. Our favorable lease assets, net of accumulated amortization, as of March 23, 2012 (unaudited) and December 31,

## [Table of Contents](#)

2011 consist of the following (in thousands):

	March 23, 2012	December 31, 2011
Boston Westin Waterfront Ground Lease	\$ 18,892	\$ 18,941
Boston Westin Waterfront Lease Right	9,513	9,513
Minneapolis Hilton Ground Lease	5,967	5,985
Oak Brook Hills Marriott Resort Ground Lease	7,227	7,352
Lexington Hotel New York Restaurant Leases	1,455	1,494
	<u>\$ 43,054</u>	<u>\$ 43,285</u>

The favorable lease assets are recorded at the acquisition date and are generally amortized using the straight-line method over the remaining non-cancelable term of the lease agreement. Amortization expense for the quarter ended March 23, 2012 was approximately \$0.2 million.

We own a favorable lease asset related to the right to acquire a leasehold interest in a parcel of land adjacent to the Westin Boston Waterfront Hotel for the development of a 320 to 350 room hotel (the "lease right"). The option expires in 2016. We do not amortize the lease right but review the asset for impairment annually or at interim periods if events or circumstances indicate that the asset may be impaired. No impairment loss was recorded during the fiscal quarters ended March 23, 2012 or March 25, 2011.

The fair value of the lease right is a Level 3 measurement under the fair value hierarchy (see Note 2) and is derived from a discounted cash flow model using the favorable difference between the estimated participating rents in accordance with the lease terms and the estimated market rents. The discount rate was estimated using a risk adjusted rate of return, the estimated participating rents were estimated based on a hypothetical completed 327-room hotel comparable to our Westin Boston Waterfront Hotel, and market rents were based on comparable long-term ground leases in the City of Boston. The methodology used to determine the fair value of the lease right is consistent with the methodology used since acquisition of the lease right.

## 5. Note Receivable

We own the \$69.0 million senior mortgage loan secured by the 443-room Allerton Hotel in Chicago, Illinois. The Allerton loan matured in January 2010 and is currently in default. The Allerton loan accrues at an interest rate of LIBOR plus 692 basis points, which includes 5 percentage points of default interest. As of March 23, 2012, the Allerton loan had a principal balance of \$69.0 million and unrecorded accrued interest (including default interest) of approximately \$4.7 million. Foreclosure proceedings were initially filed in April 2010 and in May 2011, the borrower filed for bankruptcy. We continue to pursue our rights in the bankruptcy proceedings, but the outcome is uncertain.

Recognition of interest income on the Allerton loan is dependent upon having a reasonable expectation about the timing and amount of cash payments expected to be collected from the borrower. Due to the uncertainty surrounding the timing and amount of cash payments expected, we placed the Allerton loan on non-accrual status. As of March 23, 2012, we have received default interest payments from the borrower of approximately \$5.8 million. We did not receive any default interest payments during the first fiscal quarter of 2012. These payments have been recorded as a reduction of our basis in the Allerton loan. We evaluate the potential impairment of the carrying value of the Allerton loan based on the underlying value of the hotel and as of March 23, 2012, there was no impairment.

## 6. Capital Stock

### *Common Shares*

We are authorized to issue up to 200,000,000 shares of common stock, \$0.01 par value per share. Each outstanding share of common stock entitles the holder to one vote on all matters submitted to a vote of stockholders. Holders of our common stock are entitled to receive dividends out of assets legally available for the payment of dividends when authorized by our board of directors.

We have paid the following dividends to holders of our common stock during 2012 as follows:

Payment Date	Record Date	Dividend per Share
January 10, 2012	December 30, 2011	\$0.08
April 4, 2012	March 23, 2012	\$0.08

### ***Preferred Shares***

We are authorized to issue up to 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, \$0.01 par value per share. Our board of directors is required to set for each class or series of preferred stock the terms, preferences, conversion or other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends or other distributions, qualifications, and terms or conditions of redemption. As of March 23, 2012 and December 31, 2011, there were no shares of preferred stock outstanding.

### ***Operating Partnership Units***

Holders of operating partnership units have certain redemption rights, which enable them to cause our operating partnership to redeem their units in exchange for cash per unit equal to the market price of our common stock, at the time of redemption, or, at our option for shares of our common stock on a one-for-one basis. The number of shares issuable upon exercise of the redemption rights will be adjusted upon the occurrence of stock splits, mergers, consolidations or similar pro-rata share transactions, which otherwise would have the effect of diluting the ownership interests of the limited partners or our stockholders. As of March 23, 2012 and December 31, 2011, there were no operating partnership units held by unaffiliated third parties.

## **7. Stock Incentive Plans**

We are authorized to issue up to 8,000,000 shares of our common stock under our 2004 Stock Option and Incentive Plan, as amended (the "Incentive Plan"), of which we have issued or committed to issue 3,207,754 shares as of March 23, 2012. In addition to these shares, additional shares of common stock could be issued in connection with the market stock unit awards as further described below and the stock appreciation rights issued in 2008.

### ***Restricted Stock Awards***

Restricted stock awards issued to our officers and employees generally vest over a 3-year period from the date of the grant based on continued employment. We measure compensation expense for the restricted stock awards based upon the fair market value of our common stock at the date of grant. Compensation expense is recognized on a straight-line basis over the vesting period and is included in corporate expenses in the accompanying condensed consolidated statements of operations. A summary of our restricted stock awards from January 1, 2012 to March 23, 2012 is as follows:

	<b>Number of Shares</b>	<b>Weighted- Average Grant Date Fair Value</b>
Unvested balance at January 1, 2012	1,010,127	\$ 6.97
Granted	365,599	9.84
Additional shares from dividends	5,649	10.00
Vested	(690,718)	5.36
Unvested balance at March 23, 2012	690,657	\$ 10.09

The remaining share awards are expected to vest as follows: 5,841 shares during 2012, 341,784 during 2013, 221,163 during 2014, and 121,869 during 2015. As of March 23, 2012, the unrecognized compensation cost related to restricted stock awards was \$6.7 million and the weighted-average period over which the unrecognized compensation expense will be recorded is approximately 28 months. We recorded \$0.8 million of compensation expense related to restricted stock awards for each of the fiscal quarters ended March 23, 2012 and March 25, 2011.

### ***Market Stock Units***

We have awarded market stock units ("MSUs") to our executive officers. MSUs are restricted stock units that are earned three years from the date of grant, subject to achievement of certain levels of total stockholder return over the performance period (the "Performance Period"). Each executive officer is granted a target number of MSUs (the "Target Award"). The actual number of MSUs that will be earned, if any, and converted to shares of common stock at the end of the Performance Period is equal to the Target Award multiplied by a conversion ratio. The conversion ratio is calculated by dividing the 30-trading day average closing price of our common stock on the last day of the Performance Period plus dividends paid by the 30-trading day average closing price of our common stock on the date of grant. The maximum payout to an executive officer under an MSU award is equal to 150% of the Target Award and no shares of common stock are earned if the conversion ratio is less than 50%. The number of

## [Table of Contents](#)

shares that are earned at the end of the Performance Period also includes an additional number of shares of common stock to reflect dividends that would have been paid during the Performance Period on the number of MSUs actually earned. The fair values of the MSU awards are determined using a Monte Carlo simulation. A summary of our MSUs from January 1, 2012 to March 23, 2012 is as follows:

	Number of Units	Weighted- Average Grant Date Fair Value
Unvested balance at January 1, 2012	161,575	\$ 11.45
Granted	89,990	11.14
Additional units from dividends	1,293	10.00
Unvested balance at March 23, 2012	252,858	\$ 11.33

As of March 23, 2012, the unrecognized compensation cost related to the MSUs was \$1.9 million and is expected to be recognized on a straight-line basis over a weighted average period of 28 months. For the fiscal quarters ended March 23, 2012 and March 25, 2011, we recorded approximately \$0.2 million and \$0.1 million, respectively, of compensation expense related to the MSUs.

## 8. Earnings (Loss) Per Share

Basic earnings (loss) per share is calculated by dividing net income (loss) available to common stockholders by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding. Diluted earnings (loss) per share is calculated by dividing net income (loss) available to common stockholders that has been adjusted for dilutive securities, by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding including dilutive securities.

The following is a reconciliation of the calculation of basic and diluted earnings (loss) per share (in thousands, except share and per share data):

	Fiscal Quarter Ended	
	March 23, 2012	March 25, 2011
Numerator:		
Loss from continuing operations	\$ (9,967)	\$ (10,863)
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	12,582	(181)
Net income (loss)	\$ 2,615	\$ (11,044)
Denominator:		
Weighted-average number of common shares outstanding—basic	167,666,741	163,997,743
Effect of dilutive securities:		
Unvested restricted common stock	248,058	—
Shares related to unvested MSUs	257,750	—
Weighted-average number of common shares outstanding—diluted	168,172,549	163,997,743
Basic (loss) earnings per share:		
Continuing operations	\$ (0.06)	\$ (0.07)
Discontinued operations	0.08	(0.00)
Total	\$ 0.02	\$ (0.07)
Diluted (loss) earnings per share:		
Continuing operations	\$ (0.06)	\$ (0.07)
Discontinued operations	0.08	(0.00)
Total	\$ 0.02	\$ (0.07)

We did not include the following shares in our calculation of diluted loss per share for the fiscal quarters ended March 23, 2012 and March 25, 2011 as they would be anti-dilutive:

	Fiscal Quarter Ended	
	March 23, 2012	March 25, 2011
Unvested restricted common stock	—	825,151
Unexercised stock appreciation rights	262,461	262,461
Shares related to unvested MSUs	—	182,743
Total	262,461	1,270,355

## 9. Debt

The following table sets forth information regarding the Company's debt as of March 23, 2012 (unaudited), in thousands:

Property	Principal Balance	Interest Rate
Courtyard Manhattan / Midtown East	\$ 42,213	8.81%
Marriott Salt Lake City Downtown	29,823	5.50%
Courtyard Manhattan / Fifth Avenue	50,573	6.48%
Renaissance Worthington	55,330	5.40%
Frenchman's Reef & Morning Star Marriott Beach Resort	59,407	5.44%
Marriott Los Angeles Airport	82,600	5.30%
Orlando Airport Marriott	58,146	5.68%
Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile	213,611	5.975%
Hilton Minneapolis	98,479	5.464%
JW Marriott Denver at Cherry Creek	41,602	6.47%
Lexington Hotel New York	170,368	LIBOR + 3.00% (3.24% at March 23, 2012)
Debt premium	1,179	
Total mortgage debt	903,331	
Senior unsecured credit facility	—	LIBOR + 3.00% (3.24% at March 23, 2012)
Total debt	\$ 903,331	
Weighted-Average Interest Rate		5.42%

### *Mortgage Debt*

We have incurred limited recourse, property specific mortgage debt in conjunction with certain of our hotels. In the event of default, the lender may only foreclose on the pledged assets; however, in the event of fraud, misapplication of funds or other customary recourse provisions, the lender may seek payment from us. As of March 23, 2012, 11 of our 23 hotels were secured by mortgage debt. Our mortgage debt contains certain property specific covenants and restrictions, including minimum debt service coverage ratios that trigger "cash trap" provisions as well as restrictions on incurring additional debt without lender consent. As of March 23, 2012, we are in compliance with the financial covenants of our mortgage debt.

On February 7, 2012, we prepaid in full the \$27.0 million mortgage loan secured by the Courtyard Denver Downtown without a prepayment penalty. In connection with the prepayment, we wrote off the unamortized debt premium of \$0.1 million associated with the mortgage and recorded a gain on early extinguishment of debt.

On March 9, 2012, we closed on a limited recourse \$170.4 million loan secured by a mortgage on the Lexington Hotel New York. The loan has a term of three years and may be extended for two additional one-year terms subject to the satisfaction of certain terms and conditions, including the payment of an extension fee. The loan bears interest at a floating rate of one-month LIBOR plus 300 basis points. The financing includes \$25 million of corporate recourse, which will be eliminated when the hotel achieves a specific debt yield test, the planned capital renovation for the hotel is completed and certain other conditions are met. In connection with the loan, we entered into a three-year interest rate cap agreement, which caps one-month LIBOR at 125 basis

## [Table of Contents](#)

points. The cost of the interest rate cap was \$0.9 million. Each reporting period the carrying value is adjusted to fair market value, with the accompanying charge or credit to interest expense. As of March 23, 2012, the fair market value of the interest rate cap was \$0.9 million (see Note 11).

On March 23, 2012, in connection with the sale of a three-hotel portfolio, the buyer assumed \$97 million of mortgage debt secured by the Renaissance Waverly and \$83 million of mortgage debt secured by the Renaissance Austin.

### ***Senior Unsecured Credit Facility***

We are party to a \$200.0 million unsecured credit facility, which expires in August 2014. The maturity date of the facility may be extended for an additional year upon the payment of applicable fees and the satisfaction of certain other customary conditions. We also have the right to increase the amount of the facility up to \$400 million with lender approval. Interest is paid on the periodic advances under the facility at varying rates, based upon LIBOR, plus an agreed upon additional margin amount. The applicable margin is based upon the Company's ratio of net indebtedness to EBITDA, as follows:

<b>Ratio of Net Indebtedness to EBITDA</b>	<b>Applicable Margin</b>
Less than 4.00 to 1.00	2.25%
Greater than or equal to 4.00 to 1.00 but less than 5.00 to 1.00	2.50%
Greater than or equal to 5.00 to 1.00 but less than 5.50 to 1.00	2.75%
Greater than or equal to 5.50 to 1.00 but less than 6.00 to 1.00	3.00%
Greater than or equal to 6.00 to 1.00	3.25%

In addition to the interest payable on amounts outstanding under the facility, we are required to pay an amount equal to 0.40% of the unused portion of the facility if the unused portion of the facility is greater than 50% or 0.30% if the unused portion of the facility is less than or equal to 50%.

The facility contains various corporate financial covenants. A summary of the most restrictive covenants is as follows:

	<b>Covenant</b>	<b>Actual at March 23, 2012</b>
Maximum leverage ratio (1)	60%	41.8%
Minimum fixed charge coverage ratio (2)	1.50x	2.0x
Minimum tangible net worth (3)	\$1.8 billion	\$1.94 billion
Secured recourse indebtedness	\$25 million	\$25 million

(1) Leverage ratio is total indebtedness, as defined in the credit agreement which includes our commitment on the Times Square development hotel, divided by total asset value, defined in the credit agreement as a) total cash and cash equivalents plus b) the value of our owned hotels based on (i) until March 31, 2012, appraised values and (ii) after March 31, 2012, hotel net operating income divided by an 8.5% capitalization rate, and (c) the book value of the Allerton loan.

(2) Fixed charge coverage ratio is Adjusted EBITDA, defined in the credit agreement as EBITDA less FF&E reserves, for the most recently ending 12 fiscal months, to fixed charges, defined in the credit agreement as interest expense, all regularly scheduled principal payments and payments on capitalized lease obligations, for the same most recently ending 12 fiscal month period.

(3) Tangible net worth, as defined in the credit agreement, is (i) total gross book value of all assets, exclusive of depreciation and amortization, less intangible assets, total indebtedness, and all other liabilities, plus (ii) 85% of net proceeds from future equity issuances.

The facility requires us to maintain a specific pool of unencumbered borrowing base properties. The unencumbered borrowing base assets are subject, among other restrictions, to the following limitations and covenants:

- A minimum of 5 properties with an unencumbered borrowing base value, as defined in the credit agreement, of not less than \$250 million.
- The unencumbered borrowing base must include the Westin Boston Waterfront, the Conrad Chicago and the Vail Marriott Mountain Resort and Spa. The Conrad Chicago and the Vail Marriott Mountain Resort and Spa may be released from the unencumbered borrowing base upon lender approval and satisfaction of certain other conditions.

## [Table of Contents](#)

In conjunction with the closing of the \$170.4 million loan secured by the Lexington Hotel New York, we repaid in full the outstanding balance on the facility. In addition, the \$100.0 million mortgage secured by the Lexington Hotel New York was released as security for the facility.

As of March 23, 2012, we had no borrowings outstanding under the facility and the Company's ratio of net indebtedness to EBITDA was 5.0x. Accordingly, interest on any draws under the facility will be based on LIBOR plus 275 basis points for the next fiscal quarter. We incurred interest and unused credit facility fees on the facility of \$0.8 million and \$0.2 million for our fiscal quarters ended March 23, 2012 and March 25, 2011, respectively.

### 10. Dispositions

On March 23, 2012, we completed the sale of a three-hotel portfolio for a contractual sales price of \$262.5 million to an unaffiliated third party. The portfolio consists of the Griffin Gate Marriott Resort and Spa, the Renaissance Waverly, and the Renaissance Austin. We received net cash proceeds of approximately \$93 million from the sale and the buyer assumed \$97 million of mortgage debt secured by the Renaissance Waverly and \$83 million of mortgage debt secured by the Renaissance Austin. The proceeds included approximately \$10 million for hotel working capital and cash previously held in restricted escrow accounts, net of closing costs.

We recorded a gain on the sale of the portfolio, net of tax, of approximately \$10.0 million. The gain on sale is recorded in discontinued operations on the accompanying condensed consolidated statements of operations. The following table summarizes the components of discontinued operations in the condensed consolidated statements of operations for the periods presented (unaudited, in thousands):

	Fiscal Quarter Ended	
	March 23, 2012	March 25, 2011
Hotel revenues	\$ 19,602	\$ 18,513
Hotel operating expenses	(14,415)	(13,936)
Operating income	5,187	4,577
Depreciation and amortization	—	(2,803)
Interest income	1	6
Interest expense	(2,297)	(2,325)
Income tax (expense) benefit	(326)	364
Gain on sale of hotel portfolio, net of tax	10,017	—
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	\$ 12,582	\$ (181)

### 11. Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The fair value of certain financial assets and liabilities and other financial instruments as of March 23, 2012 (unaudited) and December 31, 2011, in thousands, are as follows:

	March 23, 2012		December 31, 2011	
	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
Note receivable	\$ 54,788	\$ 55,000	\$ 54,788	\$ 55,000
Debt	\$ 903,331	\$ 924,032	\$ 1,042,933	\$ 1,060,830
Interest rate cap	\$ 863	\$ 863	\$ —	\$ —

The fair value of our mortgage debt is a Level 2 measurement under the fair value hierarchy (see Note 2). We estimate the fair value of our mortgage debt by discounting the future cash flows of each instrument at estimated market rates. The fair value of our interest rate cap is a Level 2 measurement under the fair value hierarchy. We estimate the fair value of the interest rate cap based on the LIBOR yield curve and implied market volatility as inputs and adjusted for the counterparty's credit risk. We concluded the inputs for the credit risk valuation adjustment are Level 3 inputs, however these inputs are not significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety. The fair value of our note receivable is a Level 2 measurement under the fair value hierarchy. We estimate the fair value of our note receivable by discounting the future cash flows related to the note at estimated market rates.



## [Table of Contents](#)

The underlying collateral of the note receivable has a fair value greater than the carrying value of the note receivable. The carrying value of our other financial instruments approximates fair value due to the short-term nature of these financial instruments.

## **12. Commitments and Contingencies**

### ***Litigation***

Except as described below, we are not involved in any material litigation nor, to our knowledge, is any material litigation pending or threatened against us. We are involved in routine litigation arising out of the ordinary course of business, all of which is expected to be covered by insurance and is not expected to have a material adverse impact on our financial condition or results of operations.

#### ***Allerton Loan***

We hold the senior mortgage loan secured by the Allerton Hotel, located in downtown Chicago, Illinois. The loan matured in January 2010 and is in default. In May 2011, the borrower under the loan filed for bankruptcy protection in the Northern District of Illinois under chapter 11 of Title 11 of the U.S. Code, 11 U.S.C. §§ 101 et seq., as amended. The senior mortgage loan is secured by substantially all of the assets of the borrower, including the Allerton Hotel. The filing of the bankruptcy case had the effect of, among other things, automatically staying the foreclosure proceedings that had been previously filed against the borrower. The borrower filed a plan of reorganization with the bankruptcy court in December 2011 and a disclosure statement with the bankruptcy court in January 2012 (together, the "Plan"). In March 2012, the Plan was approved for submission to the creditors for a vote to approve the Plan. If the creditors approve the Plan, then the Plan will be subject to a confirmation hearing, which is currently scheduled for July 2012. While we continue to vigorously pursue our rights in the bankruptcy case, the potential outcome is uncertain.

In August 2011, we filed a claim in New York State court under a so-called "bad boy guarantee" against an affiliate of the borrower for certain damages incurred as a result of the bankruptcy filing. In January 2012, the New York State court granted summary judgment in our favor, finding the guarantor liable for legal fees incurred by the Company arising out of the bankruptcy filing and we are preparing for a hearing on the reasonableness of the amount of fees. No assurance can be given, however, that we will be successful in collecting the amounts due to us upon a determination of the amount of damages due to us.

#### ***Los Angeles Airport Marriott Litigation***

During 2011, we accrued \$1.7 million for our contribution to the settlement of litigation involving the Los Angeles Airport Marriott. The settlement was recorded as a corporate expense during the year ended December 31, 2011. The Company and certain other defendants reached a tentative settlement of the matter, which involved claims by certain employees at the Los Angeles Airport Marriott. The settlement is pending approval by the Superior Court of California, Los Angeles County.

### ***Performance Termination Provisions Under Management Agreements***

Our management agreements provide us with termination rights upon a manager's failure to meet certain financial performance criteria. Our termination rights may, in certain cases, be waived in exchange for consideration from the manager, such as a cure payment. The Orlando Airport Marriott failed the performance test under the management agreement at the end of 2011. We are currently evaluating whether we will exercise our termination right. Based on our forecast and the hotel's budget, the Oak Brook Hills Marriott Resort is at risk of failing its performance test at the end of 2012.

### ***Income Taxes***

We had no accruals for tax uncertainties as of March 23, 2012 and December 31, 2011. As of March 23, 2012, all of our federal income tax returns and state tax returns for the jurisdictions in which our hotels are located remain subject to examination by the respective jurisdiction tax authorities.

## **Item 2. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations**

*This report contains certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. The Company intends such forward-looking statements to be covered by the safe harbor provisions for forward-looking statements contained in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and includes this statement for purposes of complying with these safe harbor provisions. These forward-looking statements are generally identifiable by use of the words “believe,” “expect,” “intend,” “anticipate,” “estimate,” “project” or similar expressions, whether in the negative or affirmative. Forward-looking statements are based on management’s current expectations and assumptions and are not guarantees of future performance. Factors that may cause actual results to differ materially from current expectations include, but are not limited to, the risks discussed herein and the risk factors discussed from time to time in our periodic filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011. Accordingly, there is no assurance that the Company’s expectations will be realized. Except as otherwise required by the federal securities laws, the Company disclaims any obligations or undertaking to publicly release any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statement contained in this report to reflect events, circumstances or changes in expectations after the date of this report.*

### **Overview**

DiamondRock Hospitality Company is a lodging-focused Maryland corporation operating as a real estate investment trust (REIT). We own a portfolio of 23 premium hotels and resorts that contain 10,406 guest rooms. We also hold the senior note on a mortgage loan secured by an additional hotel and have the right to acquire, upon completion, a hotel under development. As an owner, rather than an operator, of lodging properties, we receive all of the operating profits or losses generated by the hotels after the payment of fees due to hotel managers, which are calculated based on the revenues and profitability of each hotel.

Our vision is to be the premier allocator of capital in the lodging industry. Our mission is to deliver long-term stockholder returns through a combination of dividends and enduring capital appreciation. Our strategy is to utilize disciplined capital allocation and focus on the acquisition, ownership and asset management of high quality, branded lodging properties with superior growth prospects in North American markets with high barriers to entry.

We differentiate ourselves from our competitors by adhering to three basic principles in executing our strategy:

- high-quality urban- and destination resort-focused branded hotel real estate;
- innovative asset management; and
- conservative capital structure.

In addition, we are committed to enhancing the value of the Company’s platform by being open and transparent in our communications with stockholders, scrutinizing our corporate overhead and adopting and following sound corporate governance practices.

Consistent with our strategy, we continue to direct our energies toward opportunistic investments in premium full-service hotels and premium urban limited-service hotels located throughout North America. Our portfolio is concentrated in key gateway cities and destination resorts located in popular vacation settings. Each of our hotels is managed by a third party and most are operated under a brand owned by one of the leading global lodging brand companies (Marriott International, Inc. (“Marriott”), Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc. (“Starwood”) or Hilton Worldwide (“Hilton”).

### ***High Quality Urban- and Destination Resort-Focused Branded Hotel Real Estate***

We own 23 premium hotels and resorts throughout North America. Our hotels and resorts are primarily categorized as upper upscale as defined by Smith Travel Research and are generally located in high barrier-to-entry markets with multiple demand generators.

Our properties are concentrated in four major gateway cities (New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles and Boston) and in destination resort locations (such as the U.S. Virgin Islands and Vail, Colorado). We consider lodging properties located in gateway cities and resort destinations to be most capable of creating dynamic cash flow growth and achieving superior long-term capital appreciation. We also believe that these locations are better insulated from new supply due to relatively high barriers-to-entry, including expensive construction costs and limited development sites.

## [Table of Contents](#)

We critically evaluate each potential acquisition to ensure that the prospective asset is aligned with the vision we have set forth, supports our mission and corresponds with our strategy. Furthermore, we regularly analyze our portfolio to identify weaknesses therein and to strategize for the disposition of non-key assets in order to recycle capital for additional acquisitions.

A core tenet of our strategy is to leverage the top global hotel brands. We strongly believe that the largest global hotel brands create significant value as a result of each brand's ability to produce incremental revenue and that, as a result, branded hotels are able to generate greater profits than similar unbranded hotels. The dominant global hotel brands typically have very strong reservation and reward systems and sales organizations, and most of our hotels are operated under a brand owned by one of the top global lodging brand companies (Marriott, Starwood or Hilton). Generally, we are interested in owning hotels that are currently operated under, or can be converted to, a globally recognized brand. However, we would own or acquire non-branded hotels in certain top-tier or unique markets if we believe that the returns on these hotels would be higher than if the hotels were operated under a globally recognized brand.

### ***Innovative Asset Management***

We believe that we create significant value in our portfolio by utilizing our management team's extensive experience and encouraging innovative asset management strategies. Our senior management team has established a broad network of hotel industry contacts and relationships, including relationships with hotel owners, financiers, operators, project managers and contractors and other key industry participants.

We use our broad network of hotel industry contacts and relationships to maximize the value of our hotels. Under the federal income tax rules governing REITs, we are required to engage a hotel manager that is an eligible independent contractor to manage each of our hotels pursuant to a management agreement with one of our subsidiaries. Our philosophy is to negotiate management agreements that give us the right to exert significant influence over the management of our properties, annual budgets and all capital expenditures (all, to the extent permitted under the REIT rules), and then to use those rights to continually monitor and improve the performance of our properties. We cooperatively partner with our hotel managers in an attempt to increase operating results and long-term asset values at our hotels. In addition to working directly with the personnel at our hotels, our senior management team also has long-standing professional relationships with our hotel managers' senior executives, and we work directly with these senior executives to improve the performance of our portfolio.

We continue to explore strategic options to maximize the growth of revenue and profitability. We persist in impressing upon our hotel managers the importance of limiting increases in property-level operating expenses. We maintain our practice of working closely with managers to optimize business at our hotels in order to maximize revenue and we remain committed to the objective of maintaining conservative corporate expenses.

We believe we can create significant value in our portfolio through innovative asset management strategies such as rebranding, renovating and repositioning and we engage in a process of regular evaluations of our portfolio in order to determine if there are opportunities to employ these value-add strategies.

### ***Conservative Capital Structure***

Since our formation in 2004, we have been committed to a conservative capital structure with prudent leverage. Our outstanding debt as of March 23, 2012 consists of fixed interest rate mortgage debt with no maturities until late 2014 and the interest-only loan secured by the Lexington Hotel New York, which bears interest at an attractive floating rate. We also maintain low financial leverage by often funding a portion of our acquisitions with proceeds from the issuance of equity. We prefer that a significant portion of our portfolio remain unencumbered by debt in order to provide maximum balance sheet flexibility. In addition, to the extent that we incur additional debt, our preference is limited recourse secured mortgage debt. We expect that our strategy will enable us to maintain a balance sheet with an appropriate amount of debt throughout all phases of the lodging cycle. We believe that it is not prudent to increase the inherent risk of highly cyclical lodging fundamentals through use of a highly leveraged capital structure.

We prefer a relatively simple but efficient capital structure. We have not invested in joint ventures and have not issued any operating partnership units or preferred stock. We endeavor to structure our hotel acquisitions so that they will not overly complicate our capital structure; however, we will consider a more complex transaction if we believe that the projected returns to our stockholders will significantly exceed the returns that would otherwise be available.

At all times, we actively review and manage the sources and uses of our funds in order to mitigate our exposure to economic risks and to maximize returns for our investors. In response to volatility in the financial markets during the last several years, we have undertaken additional measures in order to navigate the challenges created thereby and we are continuously evaluating and

## [Table of Contents](#)

updating these measures in order to effectively address evolving economic, social and political climates. Our ultimate goal in this regard is to create and maintain long-term stockholder value.

### **Key Indicators of Financial Condition and Operating Performance**

We use a variety of operating and other information to evaluate the financial condition and operating performance of our business. These key indicators include financial information that is prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP, as well as other financial information that is not prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP. In addition, we use other information that may not be financial in nature, including statistical information and comparative data. We use this information to measure the performance of individual hotels, groups of hotels and/or our business as a whole. We periodically compare historical information to our internal budgets as well as industry-wide information. These key indicators include:

- Occupancy percentage;
- Average Daily Rate (or ADR);
- Revenue per Available Room (or RevPAR);
- Earnings Before Interest, Income Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization (or EBITDA); and
- Funds From Operations (or FFO).

Occupancy, ADR and RevPAR are commonly used measures within the hotel industry to evaluate operating performance. RevPAR, which is calculated as the product of ADR and occupancy percentage, is an important statistic for monitoring operating performance at the individual hotel level and across our business as a whole. We evaluate individual hotel RevPAR performance on an absolute basis with comparisons to budget and prior periods, as well as on a company-wide and regional basis. ADR and RevPAR include only room revenue. Room revenue comprised approximately 69% of total revenues for the quarter ended March 23, 2012 and is dictated by demand, as measured by occupancy percentage, pricing, as measured by ADR, and our available supply of hotel rooms.

Our ADR, occupancy percentage and RevPAR performance may be impacted by macroeconomic factors such as U.S. economic conditions generally, regional and local employment growth, personal income and corporate earnings, office vacancy rates and business relocation decisions, airport and other business and leisure travel, new hotel construction and the pricing strategies of competitors. In addition, our ADR, occupancy percentage and RevPAR performance is dependent on the continued success of our hotels' global brands.

We also use EBITDA and FFO as measures of the financial performance of our business. See “Non-GAAP Financial Matters.”

### **Our Hotels**

The following table sets forth certain operating information for each of our owned hotels for the period from January 1, 2012 to March 23, 2012. The operating information presented below assumes we owned our hotels acquired in 2011 since January 1, 2011 and reflects our period of ownership for the hotels we sold in 2012.

## [Table of Contents](#)

Property	Location	Number of Rooms	Occupancy (%)	ADR(\$)	RevPAR(\$)	% Change from 2011 RevPAR
Chicago Marriott	Chicago, Illinois	1,198	55.8%	\$ 155.86	\$ 86.99	9.4 %
Los Angeles Airport Marriott	Los Angeles, California	1,004	89.7%	108.18	97.06	7.4 %
Hilton Minneapolis (1)	Minneapolis, Minnesota	821	59.7%	113.66	67.88	(0.5)%
Lexington Hotel New York (1) (2)	New York, New York	712	92.0%	139.69	128.45	13.3 %
Westin Boston Waterfront Hotel (1)	Boston, Massachusetts	793	54.6%	165.15	90.23	22.1 %
Renaissance Waverly Hotel (3)	Atlanta, Georgia	521	73.8%	132.02	97.48	8.2 %
Salt Lake City Marriott Downtown	Salt Lake City, Utah	510	71.2%	139.18	99.13	35.7 %
Renaissance Worthington	Fort Worth, Texas	504	77.7%	156.09	121.21	(5.5)%
Frenchman's Reef & Morning Star Marriott Beach Resort (1)	St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands	502	83.8%	285.06	238.74	10.8 %
Renaissance Austin Hotel (3)	Austin, Texas	492	73.9%	154.28	114.06	7.9 %
Torrance Marriott South Bay	Los Angeles County, California	487	80.8%	110.90	89.61	8.5 %
Orlando Airport Marriott	Orlando, Florida	485	83.8%	115.69	96.99	— %
Marriott Griffin Gate Resort (3)	Lexington, Kentucky	409	45.8%	118.51	54.31	9.1 %
Oak Brook Hills Marriott Resort	Oak Brook, Illinois	386	49.7%	111.40	55.41	41.9 %
Atlanta Westin North at Perimeter (1)	Atlanta, Georgia	372	76.5%	111.03	84.92	20.6 %
Vail Marriott Mountain Resort & Spa (1)	Vail, Colorado	344	78.9%	322.71	254.63	1.6 %
Marriott Atlanta Alpharetta	Atlanta, Georgia	318	67.2%	144.64	97.23	6.1 %
Courtyard Manhattan/Midtown East	New York, New York	312	79.0%	209.34	165.45	9.2 %
Conrad Chicago (1)	Chicago, Illinois	311	58.2%	152.71	88.94	3.2 %
Bethesda Marriott Suites	Bethesda, Maryland	272	51.8%	176.34	91.33	(5.1)%
JW Marriott Denver at Cherry Creek (1) (2)	Denver, Colorado	196	67.7%	213.07	144.30	5.9 %
Courtyard Manhattan/Fifth Avenue	New York, New York	185	84.1%	217.61	182.95	11.1 %
The Lodge at Sonoma, a Renaissance Resort & Spa	Sonoma, California	182	52.2%	182.58	95.25	7.3 %
Courtyard Denver Downtown (1) (2)	Denver, Colorado	177	80.7%	140.70	113.57	18.0 %
Hilton Garden Inn Chelsea/New York City (1)	New York, New York	169	88.8%	152.21	135.17	7.2 %
Renaissance Charleston	Charleston, South Carolina	166	80.1%	169.41	135.77	13.4 %
TOTAL/WEIGHTED AVERAGE		11,828	70.9%	\$ 151.04	\$ 107.07	9.0 %

(1) The hotel reports operations on a calendar month and year basis. The table above includes the operations for the period from January 1, 2012 to February 29, 2012 for the hotel.

(2) The hotel was acquired during 2011.

(3) The hotel was sold on March 23, 2012.

## 2012 Highlights

**Sale of Three-Hotel Portfolio.** On March 23, 2012, we completed the sale of a three-hotel portfolio for a contractual sales price of \$262.5 million. The portfolio consisted of the Griffin Gate Marriott Resort and Spa, the Renaissance Waverly, and the Renaissance Austin. We received net cash proceeds of approximately \$93 million and the buyer assumed \$97 million of mortgage debt secured by the Renaissance Waverly and \$83 million of mortgage debt secured by the Renaissance Austin. As part of the proceeds, we received approximately \$10 million for hotel working capital and cash previously held in restricted escrow accounts, net of closing costs. We recorded a gain on the sale of the portfolio of approximately \$10.0 million, net of tax, which is reported within discontinued operations.

**Rebranding of Lexington Hotel New York.** On March 23, 2012, we executed a franchise agreement with Marriott to affiliate the Lexington Hotel New York with Marriott's Autograph Collection upon the completion of a comprehensive \$30 million property improvement plan. Separately, we exercised our termination option under the hotel's existing franchise agreement with Radisson Hotels International, Inc., for which we paid a \$750,000 termination fee. The hotel will operate under the Radisson brand through September 15, 2012. During the period after the termination of Radisson and prior to becoming affiliated with the Autograph Collection, we expect to operate the hotel as an independent hotel. Highgate Hotels will remain the manager of the hotel.

**Lexington Hotel New York Mortgage Loan.** On March 9, 2012, we closed on a limited recourse \$170.4 million loan secured by a mortgage on the Lexington Hotel New York. The loan has a term of three years and may be extended for two additional one-

## [Table of Contents](#)

year terms subject to the satisfaction of certain terms and conditions and the payment of an extension fee. The loan bears interest at a floating rate of one-month LIBOR plus 300 basis points. In connection with the financing, we purchased a three-year 125 basis point LIBOR interest rate cap for approximately \$0.9 million.

*Prepayment of Courtyard Denver Downtown Mortgage.* On February 7, 2012, we prepaid the \$27 million mortgage debt secured by the Courtyard Denver Downtown prior to its scheduled maturity in August 2012.

## Results of Operations

### *Comparison of our Fiscal Quarter Ended March 23, 2012 to our Fiscal Quarter Ended March 25, 2011*

Our net income for our fiscal quarter ended March 23, 2012 was \$2.6 million compared to a net loss of \$11.0 million for our fiscal quarter ended March 25, 2011.

*Revenue.* Revenue consists primarily of the room, food and beverage and other operating revenues from our hotels. Our revenues from continuing operations, which exclude revenues from the three hotels sold on March 23, 2012, increased \$17.6 million, from \$103.8 million for our fiscal quarter ended March 25, 2011 to \$121.4 million for our fiscal quarter ended March 23, 2012. This increase includes amounts that are not comparable quarter-over-quarter as follows:

- \$2.7 million increase from the JW Marriott Denver at Cherry Creek, which was purchased on May 19, 2011.
- \$6.0 million increase from the Lexington Hotel New York, which was purchased on June 1, 2011.
- \$1.3 million increase from the Courtyard Denver Downtown, which was purchased on July 22, 2011.

Individual hotel revenues for our fiscal quarters ended March 23, 2012 and March 25, 2011, respectively, consist of the following (in millions):

	Fiscal Quarter Ended		% Change
	March 23, 2012	March 25, 2011	
Chicago Marriott	\$ 13.0	\$ 12.4	4.8 %
Westin Boston Waterfront Hotel (1)	7.4	6.2	19.4
Hilton Minneapolis (1)	5.9	6.1	(3.3)
Lexington Hotel New York (1) (2)	6.0	—	100.0
Los Angeles Airport Marriott	13.1	12.3	6.5
Conrad Chicago (1)	2.1	2.1	—
Renaissance Worthington	8.0	8.4	(4.8)
Courtyard Manhattan/Midtown East	4.5	4.2	7.1
Oak Brook Hills Marriott Resort	3.9	2.6	50.0
Vail Marriott Mountain Resort & Spa (1)	6.7	6.5	3.1
Torrance Marriott South Bay	5.0	4.7	6.4
JW Marriott Denver at Cherry Creek (1) (2)	2.7	—	100.0
The Lodge at Sonoma, a Renaissance Resort & Spa	2.8	2.6	7.7
Salt Lake City Marriott Downtown	6.2	4.8	29.2
Atlanta Westin North at Perimeter (1)	3.0	2.5	20.0
Frenchman's Reef & Morning Star Marriott Beach Resort (1)	10.9	9.6	13.5
Courtyard Manhattan/Fifth Avenue	2.9	2.6	11.5
Orlando Airport Marriott	5.6	6.0	(6.7)
Marriott Atlanta Alpharetta	3.8	3.7	2.7
Hilton Garden Inn Chelsea/New York City (1)	1.4	1.3	7.7
Bethesda Marriott Suites	2.9	3.1	(6.5)
Renaissance Charleston	2.3	2.1	9.5
Courtyard Denver Downtown (1) (2)	1.3	—	100.0
Total	\$ 121.4	\$ 103.8	17.0 %

(1) The hotel reports operations on a calendar month and year basis. The fiscal quarters ended March 23, 2012 and March 25, 2011 include the months of

## [Table of Contents](#)

January and February for the hotel.

(2) The hotel was acquired in 2011.

The following pro forma key hotel operating statistics for our hotels reported in continuing operations for the fiscal quarters ended March 23, 2012 and March 25, 2011, respectively, include the prior year operating statistics for the prior year period comparable to our 2012 ownership period.

	Fiscal Quarter Ended		% Change
	March 23, 2012	March 25, 2011	
Occupancy %	71.7%	67.3%	4.4 percentage points
ADR	\$ 152.88	\$ 149.20	2.5%
RevPAR	\$ 109.56	\$ 100.46	9.1%

The increase in RevPAR is attributable to growth in both occupancy and, to a lesser extent, ADR. The occupancy growth was led by the leisure and contract segments, up 16.4% and 17.0% from 2011, respectively. Group room nights increased 4.8% from 2011, but group ADR was lower by 1.6%. Business transient room nights were 3.4% lower than 2011, but business transient ADR increased 5.8%.

Food and beverage revenues increased \$2.1 million from the comparable period in 2011, which includes \$0.9 million from our 2011 acquisitions. The remaining increase of \$1.2 million at our comparable hotels is driven by both higher banquet revenue and higher outlet revenue. Other revenues, which primarily represent spa, golf, parking and attrition and cancellation fees, increased \$1.5 million, which includes \$0.6 million from our 2011 acquisitions. The remaining increase of \$0.9 million is due to our comparable hotels.

*Hotel operating expenses.* The operating expenses for our fiscal quarters ended March 23, 2012 and March 25, 2011 consists of the following (in millions):

	Fiscal Quarter Ended		% Change
	March 23, 2012	March 25, 2011	
Rooms departmental expenses	\$ 24.9	\$ 20.2	23.3 %
Food and beverage departmental expenses	23.8	22.6	5.3
Other departmental expenses	3.8	3.2	18.8
General and administrative	11.6	10.3	12.6
Utilities	5.1	4.6	10.9
Repairs and maintenance	6.3	5.8	8.6
Sales and marketing	10.0	8.4	19.0
Base management fees	3.0	2.6	15.4
Incentive management fees	0.1	0.1	—
Property taxes	6.7	4.5	48.9
Other fixed charges	2.6	1.7	52.9
Ground rent—Contractual	1.5	1.3	15.4
Ground rent—Non-cash	1.5	1.6	(6.3)
Total hotel operating expenses	\$ 100.9	\$ 86.9	16.1 %

Our hotel operating expenses increased \$14.0 million, or 16.1 percent, from \$86.9 million for our fiscal quarter ended March 25, 2011 to \$100.9 million for our fiscal quarter ended March 23, 2012. The increase in hotel operating expenses includes amounts that are not comparable quarter-over-quarter as follows:

- \$2.1 million increase from the JW Marriott Denver, which was purchased on May 19, 2011.
- \$5.5 million increase from the Lexington Hotel New York, which was purchased on June 1, 2011.
- \$0.8 million increase from the Courtyard Denver Downtown, which was purchased on July 22, 2011.

The remaining increase in operating expenses of \$5.6 million at our comparable hotels is primarily due to higher rooms and other departmental costs, driven by labor costs, and increased support costs, primarily driven by sales and marketing expenses. Property taxes also increased \$1.1 million, primarily as a result of the expiration of our PILOT program at the Westin Boston

Waterfront Hotel and an expected increase in the assessed value of the Chicago Marriott Downtown.

Base management fees are calculated as a percentage of total revenues and incentive management fees are based on the level of operating profit at certain hotels. The increase in base management fees is due primarily to the impact of our 2011 acquisitions and higher revenues at our comparable hotels.

*Depreciation and amortization.* Depreciation and amortization is recorded on our hotel buildings over 40 years for the periods subsequent to acquisition. Depreciable lives of hotel furniture, fixtures and equipment are estimated as the time period between the acquisition date and the date that the hotel furniture, fixtures and equipment will be replaced. Our depreciation and amortization expense increased \$2.0 million from the first fiscal quarter in 2011 to the first fiscal quarter in 2012 due primarily to our 2011 acquisitions, as well as the extensive renovation at Frenchman's Reef.

*Corporate expenses.* Our corporate expenses increased \$0.4 million, from \$4.1 million for our fiscal quarter ended March 25, 2011 to \$4.5 million for our fiscal quarter ended March 23, 2012. Corporate expenses principally consist of employee-related costs, including base payroll, bonus and restricted stock. Corporate expenses also include corporate operating costs, professional fees and directors' fees. The increase in corporate expenses is due primarily to legal expenses related to the bankruptcy proceedings of the Allerton Hotel.

*Hotel acquisition costs.* Hotel acquisition costs decreased \$0.2 million from the quarter ended March 25, 2011 to the quarter ended March 23, 2012 primarily as a result of the acquisition of the JW Marriott Denver at Cherry Creek and Lexington Hotel New York in 2011.

*Interest expense.* Our interest expense was \$11.5 million and \$8.8 million for our fiscal quarters ended March 23, 2012 and March 25, 2011, respectively. The increase in interest expense is primarily attributable to the mortgage financing on the Hilton Minneapolis, the mortgage loans assumed in our acquisitions of the JW Marriott Denver at Cherry Creek and the Courtyard Denver Downtown, the outstanding borrowings under our credit facility, and the recent mortgage financing on the Lexington Hotel New York.

Our interest expense for the fiscal quarters ended March 23, 2012 and March 25, 2011 is comprised of the following (in millions):

	Fiscal Quarter Ended	
	March 23, 2012	March 25, 2011
Mortgage debt interest	\$ 10.5	\$ 8.4
Credit facility interest and unused fees	0.8	0.2
Amortization of deferred financing costs and debt premium	0.4	0.4
Capitalized interest	(0.3)	(0.2)
Interest rate cap fair value adjustment	0.1	—
	<u>\$ 11.5</u>	<u>\$ 8.8</u>

As of March 23, 2012, we had property-specific mortgage debt outstanding on eleven of our hotels. Most of our mortgage debt is fixed-rate secured debt bearing interest at rates ranging from 5.30 percent to 8.81 percent per year. The mortgage loan secured by the Lexington Hotel New York bears interest at a floating rate based on one-month LIBOR plus 300 basis points. As of March 23, 2012, we had no outstanding borrowings under our credit facility. Our weighted-average interest rate on all debt as of March 23, 2012 was 5.42 percent.

*Interest income.* Interest income was less than \$0.1 million for our fiscal quarter ended March 23, 2012 and \$0.3 million for our fiscal quarter ended March 25, 2011, respectively. The decrease is primarily due to lower average cash balances during the first quarter of 2012.

*Discontinued operations.* Income from discontinued operations represents the results of operations for the quarters ended March 23, 2012 and March 25, 2011 of the three-hotel portfolio sold on March 23, 2012. We recorded a gain on the sale, net of tax, of \$10.0 million during the first quarter of 2012.

*Income taxes.* We recorded an income tax benefit on continuing operations of \$5.8 million for our fiscal quarter ended March 23, 2012 and an income tax benefit on continuing operations of \$3.7 million for our fiscal quarter ended March 25, 2011. The first fiscal quarter 2012 income tax benefit includes \$5.9 million of income tax benefit incurred on the \$14.6 million pre-tax



## [Table of Contents](#)

loss from continuing operations of our taxable REIT subsidiary, or TRS, partially offset by \$0.1 million of foreign income tax expense incurred on the \$1.2 million pre-tax income of the TRS that owns Frenchman's Reef. The first fiscal quarter 2011 income tax benefit includes \$3.8 million of income tax benefit incurred on the \$9.6 million pre-tax loss from continuing operations of our TRS for our fiscal quarter ended March 25, 2011, offset by foreign income tax expense of \$0.1 million related to the \$0.7 million of pre-tax income of the TRS that owns Frenchman's Reef.

### **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

Our short-term liquidity requirements consist primarily of funds necessary to fund distributions to our stockholders to maintain our REIT status as well as to pay for operating expenses and other expenditures directly associated with our hotels, including capital expenditures, funding of the renovation escrow account, and scheduled debt payments of interest and principal. We currently expect that our available cash flows, which are generally provided through net cash provided by hotel operations, existing cash balances and, if necessary, short-term borrowings under our credit facility, will be sufficient to meet our short-term liquidity requirements. Some of our mortgage debt agreements contain "cash trap" provisions that are triggered when the hotel's operating results fall below a certain debt service coverage ratio. When these provisions are triggered, all of the excess cash flow generated by the hotel is deposited directly into cash management accounts for the benefit of our lenders until a specified debt service coverage ratio is reached and maintained for a certain period of time. Such provisions do not allow the lender the right to accelerate repayment of the underlying debt.

Our long-term liquidity requirements consist primarily of funds necessary to pay for the costs of acquiring additional hotels, renovations, expansions and other capital expenditures that need to be made periodically to our hotels, scheduled debt payments and making distributions to our stockholders. We expect to meet our long-term liquidity requirements through various sources of capital, including cash provided by operations, borrowings, issuances of additional equity or debt securities and proceeds from property dispositions. Our ability to incur additional debt is dependent upon a number of factors, including the state of the credit markets, our degree of leverage, the value of our unencumbered assets and borrowing restrictions imposed by existing lenders. Our ability to raise capital through the issuance of additional equity and/or debt securities is also dependent on a number of factors including the current state of the capital markets, investor sentiment and intended use of proceeds. We may need to raise additional capital if we identify acquisition opportunities that meet our investment objectives.

#### ***Our Financing Strategy***

Since our formation in 2004, we have been committed to a conservative capital structure with prudent leverage. Other than our \$170.4 million loan secured by a mortgage on the Lexington Hotel New York, our outstanding debt is fixed interest rate mortgage debt with no near-term maturities. We have a preference to maintain a significant portion of our portfolio as unencumbered assets in order to provide balance sheet flexibility. In addition, to the extent that we incur additional debt, our preference is limited recourse secured mortgage debt. This strategy enables us to maintain a balance sheet with a prudent amount of debt. We believe that it is not prudent to increase the inherent risk of a highly cyclical business by maintaining a highly leveraged capital structure.

We prefer a relatively simple but efficient capital structure. We have not invested in joint ventures and have not issued any operating partnership units or preferred stock. We endeavor to structure our hotel acquisitions so that they will not overly complicate our capital structure; however, we will consider a more complex transaction if we believe that the projected returns to our stockholders will significantly exceed the returns that would otherwise be available.

We believe that we maintain a reasonable amount of debt. As of March 23, 2012, we had \$903.3 million of debt outstanding with a weighted average interest rate of 5.42% and a weighted average maturity date of approximately 4.1 years.

#### ***Short-Term Borrowings***

Other than borrowings under our senior unsecured credit facility, we do not utilize short-term borrowings to meet liquidity requirements. As of March 23, 2012, we had no borrowings outstanding under our senior unsecured credit facility.

#### ***Senior Unsecured Credit Facility***

We are party to a three-year, \$200.0 million unsecured credit facility expiring in August 2014. The maturity date of the facility may be extended for an additional year upon the payment of applicable fees and the satisfaction of certain other customary conditions. We also have the right to increase the amount of the facility up to \$400 million with lender approval. Interest is paid on the periodic advances under the facility at varying rates, based upon LIBOR, plus an agreed upon additional margin amount. The applicable margin is based upon the Company's ratio of net indebtedness to EBITDA, as follows:

## [Table of Contents](#)

<b>Ratio of Net Indebtedness to EBITDA</b>	<b>Applicable Margin</b>
Less than 4.00 to 1.00	2.25%
Greater than or equal to 4.00 to 1.00 but less than 5.00 to 1.00	2.50%
Greater than or equal to 5.00 to 1.00 but less than 5.50 to 1.00	2.75%
Greater than or equal to 5.50 to 1.00 but less than 6.00 to 1.00	3.00%
Greater than or equal to 6.00 to 1.00	3.25%

In addition to the interest payable on amounts outstanding under the facility, we are required to pay an amount equal to 0.40% of the unused portion of the facility if the unused portion of the facility is greater than 50% or 0.30% if the unused portion of the facility is less than or equal to 50%.

The facility contains various corporate financial covenants. A summary of the most restrictive covenants is as follows:

	<b>Covenant</b>	<b>Actual at March 23, 2012</b>
Maximum leverage ratio (1)	60%	41.8%
Minimum fixed charge coverage ratio (2)	1.50x	2.0x
Minimum tangible net worth (3)	\$1.8 billion	\$1.94 billion
Secured recourse indebtedness	\$25 million	\$25 million

- (1) Leverage ratio is total indebtedness, as defined in the credit agreement which includes our commitment on the Times Square development hotel, divided by total asset value, defined in the credit agreement as a) total cash and cash equivalents plus b) the value of our owned hotels based on (i) until March 31, 2012, appraised values and (ii) after March 31, 2012, hotel net operating income divided by an 8.5% capitalization rate, and (c) the book value of the Allerton loan.
- (2) Fixed charge coverage ratio is Adjusted EBITDA, defined in the credit agreement as EBITDA less FF&E reserves, for the most recently ending 12 fiscal months, to fixed charges, defined in the credit agreement as interest expense, all regularly scheduled principal payments and payments on capitalized lease obligations, for the same most recently ending 12 fiscal month period.
- (3) Tangible net worth, as defined in the credit agreement, is (i) total gross book value of all assets, exclusive of depreciation and amortization, less intangible assets, total indebtedness, and all other liabilities, plus (ii) 85% of net proceeds from future equity issuances.

The facility requires us to maintain a specific pool of unencumbered borrowing base properties. The unencumbered borrowing base assets are subject, among other restrictions, to the following limitations and covenants:

- A minimum of five properties with an unencumbered borrowing base value, as defined in the credit agreement, of not less than \$250 million.
- The unencumbered borrowing base must include the Westin Boston Waterfront, the Conrad Chicago and the Vail Marriott Mountain Resort and Spa. The Conrad Chicago and the Vail Marriott Mountain Resort and Spa may be released from the unencumbered borrowing base upon lender approval and satisfaction of certain other conditions.

In conjunction with the closing of the \$170.4 million loan secured by the Lexington Hotel New York, we repaid in full the outstanding balance on the facility. In addition, the \$100.0 million mortgage secured by the Lexington Hotel New York was released as security for the facility.

As of March 23, 2012, we had no borrowings outstanding under the facility and the Company's ratio of net indebtedness to EBITDA was 5.0x. Accordingly, interest on any draws under the facility will be based on LIBOR plus 275 basis points for the next fiscal quarter. We incurred interest and unused credit facility fees on the facility of \$0.8 million and \$0.2 million for our fiscal quarters ended March 23, 2012 and March 25, 2011.

## **Sources and Uses of Cash**

Our principal sources of cash are net cash flow from hotel operations, borrowings under mortgage debt and our credit facility and the proceeds from our equity offerings. Our principal uses of cash are acquisitions of hotel properties, debt service, capital expenditures, operating costs, corporate expenses and dividends.

As of March 23, 2012, we had \$128.6 million of unrestricted corporate cash, \$56.1 million of restricted cash and \$200

## [Table of Contents](#)

million of borrowing capacity under our credit facility.

Our net cash provided by operations was \$1.7 million for the period from January 1, 2012 to March 23, 2012. Our cash from operations generally consists of the net cash flow from hotel operations offset by cash paid for corporate expenses, cash paid for interest, funding of lender escrow reserves and other working capital changes.

Our net cash provided by investing activities was \$81.6 million for the period from January 1, 2012 to March 23, 2012 primarily as a result of the sale of the three-hotel portfolio (\$93 million). Cash used in investing activities consisted primarily of capital expenditures at our hotels (\$6.8 million) and the additional deposit on the to-be-developed hotel in Times Square (\$1.5 million).

Our net cash provided by financing activities was \$19.0 million for the period from January 1, 2012 to March 23, 2012 and consisted of \$170.4 million of proceeds from mortgage financing of the Lexington Hotel New York, offset by the net \$100.0 million repayment of our credit facility, the \$27.0 million prepayment of the mortgage debt secured by the Courtyard Denver Downtown, payment of cash dividends, and payment of financing costs for the Lexington Hotel New York mortgage loan.

In addition to the sources of cash discussed above with respect to proceeds from the sale of the three-hotel portfolio and the mortgage debt financing on the Lexington Hotel New York, we currently expect our estimated significant sources of cash for the remainder of the year ending December 31, 2012 to be comprised of net cash flow from hotel operations. We expect our estimated uses of cash for the remainder of the year ending December 31, 2012 to be comprised of regularly scheduled debt service payments; payment of cash dividends, which are subject to board approval; capital expenditures, which are described further below; and corporate expenses.

### **Dividend Policy**

We intend to distribute to our stockholders dividends at least equal to our REIT taxable income so as to avoid paying corporate income tax and excise tax on our earnings (other than the earnings of our TRS and TRS lessees, which are all subject to tax at regular corporate rates) and to qualify for the tax benefits afforded to REITs under the Code. In order to qualify as a REIT under the Code, we generally must make distributions to our stockholders each year in an amount equal to at least:

- 90% of our REIT taxable income determined without regard to the dividends paid deduction and excluding net capital gains, plus
- 90% of the excess of our net income from foreclosure property over the tax imposed on such income by the Code, minus
- any excess non-cash income.

The timing and frequency of distributions will be authorized by our board of directors and declared by us based upon a variety of factors, including our financial performance, restrictions under applicable law and our current and future loan agreements, our debt service requirements, our capital expenditure requirements, the requirements for qualification as a REIT under the Code and other factors that our board of directors may deem relevant from time to time.

We have paid the following dividends to holders of our common stock during 2012 as follows:

<b>Payment Date</b>	<b>Record Date</b>	<b>Dividend per Share</b>
January 10, 2012	December 30, 2011	\$0.08
April 4, 2012	March 23, 2012	\$0.08

### **Capital Expenditures**

The management and franchise agreements for each of our hotels provide for the establishment of separate property improvement funds to cover, among other things, the cost of replacing and repairing furniture and fixtures at our hotels. Contributions to the property improvement fund are calculated as a percentage of hotel revenues. In addition, we may be required to pay for the cost of certain additional improvements that are not permitted to be funded from the property improvement fund under the applicable management or franchise agreement. As of March 23, 2012, we have set aside \$46.6 million for capital projects in property improvement funds, which are included in restricted cash. Funds held in property improvement funds for one hotel are typically not permitted to be applied to any other property. We spent approximately \$6.8 million on capital improvements during the period from January 1, 2012 to March 23, 2012.

## [Table of Contents](#)

During 2012, we have commenced or plan to commence approximately \$45 million of capital improvements, approximately \$16 million of which will be funded from corporate cash. Our significant projects for 2012 include the following:

- **Conrad Chicago.** We expect to spend \$3.5 million to add 4,100 square feet of new meeting space, reposition the food and beverage outlets and re-concept the hotel lobby. The addition of the new meeting space is scheduled to take place during the summer of 2012 and the lobby repositioning in the first quarter of 2013.
- **Courtyard Manhattan/Midtown East.** We expect to spend approximately \$2.0 million to renovate the lobby and restaurant, as well as relocate the fitness center and add 5 additional rooms at the hotel.
- **Renaissance Worthington.** We expect to spend \$1.2 million over the next two years to undertake a comprehensive repair of the concrete façade of the hotel.
- **Marriott Atlanta Alpharetta.** We expect to spend \$2.4 million to renovate the guestrooms at the hotel during the third quarter of 2012.

In conjunction with executing the rebranding strategy at the Lexington Hotel, we are currently planning a comprehensive renovation of the hotel, including the lobby, corridors, guest rooms and guest bathrooms. The cost of the renovation is expected to be approximately \$30 million and completed during the first half of 2013.

We are continuing to evaluate an extensive renovation project at the Chicago Marriott Downtown that, if approved, is expected to be completed in subsequent years.

### Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

We have no off-balance sheet arrangements that have or are reasonably likely to have a current or future effect on our financial condition, changes in financial condition, revenues or expenses, results of operations, liquidity, capital expenditures or capital resources that is material to investors.

### Non-GAAP Financial Measures

We use the following two non-GAAP financial measures that we believe are useful to investors as key measures of our operating performance: (1) EBITDA and (2) FFO. These measures should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for measures of performance in accordance with GAAP.

EBITDA represents net (loss) income excluding: (1) interest expense; (2) provision for income taxes, including income taxes applicable to sale of assets; and (3) depreciation and amortization. We believe EBITDA is useful to an investor in evaluating our operating performance because it helps investors evaluate and compare the results of our operations from period to period by removing the impact of our capital structure (primarily interest expense) and our asset base (primarily depreciation and amortization) from our operating results. In addition, covenants included in our indebtedness use EBITDA as a measure of financial compliance. We also use EBITDA as one measure in determining the value of hotel acquisitions and dispositions.

	Fiscal Quarter Ended	
	March 23, 2012	March 25, 2011
	(in thousands)	
Net income (loss)	\$ 2,615	\$ (11,044)
Interest expense (1)	13,765	11,143
Income tax benefit (2)	(5,588)	(4,091)
Real estate related depreciation and amortization (3)	20,518	21,352
EBITDA	\$ 31,310	\$ 17,360

(1) Amounts include interest expense included in discontinued operations as follows: \$2.3 million in the quarters ended March 23, 2012 and March 25, 2011.

(2) Amounts include income tax (expense) benefit included in discontinued operations as follows: (\$0.2 million) in the quarter ended March 23, 2012 and \$0.4 million in the quarter ended March 25, 2011.

(3) Includes \$2.8 million of depreciation expense included in discontinued operations for the quarter ended March 25, 2011.

## [Table of Contents](#)

We compute FFO in accordance with standards established by the National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts, which defines FFO as net (loss) income (determined in accordance with GAAP), excluding gains (losses) from sales of property and impairment write-downs of depreciable operating property, plus depreciation and amortization and after adjustments for unconsolidated partnerships and joint ventures (which are calculated to reflect FFO on the same basis). We believe that the presentation of FFO provides useful information to investors regarding our operating performance because it is a measure of our operations without regard to specified non-cash items, such as real estate depreciation and amortization and gains or losses on sale of assets. We also use FFO as one measure in assessing our results.

	Fiscal Quarter Ended	
	March 23, 2012	March 25, 2011
	(in thousands)	
Net income (loss)	\$ 2,615	\$ (11,044)
Real estate related depreciation and amortization (1)	20,518	21,352
Gain on sale of hotel portfolio, net of tax	(10,017)	—
FFO	\$ 13,116	\$ 10,308

(1) Includes \$2.8 million of depreciation expense included in discontinued operations for the quarter ended March 25, 2011.

## Critical Accounting Policies

Our consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the DiamondRock Hospitality Company and all consolidated subsidiaries. The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, or GAAP, requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities at the date of our financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. While we do not believe the reported amounts would be materially different, application of these policies involves the exercise of judgment and the use of assumptions as to future uncertainties and, as a result, actual results could differ materially from these estimates. We evaluate our estimates and judgments, including those related to the impairment of long-lived assets, on an ongoing basis. We base our estimates on experience and on various other assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. All of our significant accounting policies are disclosed in the notes to our consolidated financial statements. The following represent certain critical accounting policies that require us to exercise our business judgment or make significant estimates:

*Investment in Hotels.* Acquired hotels, land improvements, building and furniture, fixtures and equipment and identifiable intangible assets are initially recorded at fair value. Additions to property and equipment, including current buildings, improvements, furniture, fixtures and equipment are recorded at cost. Property and equipment are depreciated using the straight-line method over an estimated useful life of 15 to 40 years for buildings and land improvements and one to ten years for furniture and equipment. Identifiable intangible assets are typically related to contracts, including ground lease agreements and hotel management agreements, which are recorded at fair value. Above-market and below-market contract values are based on the present value of the difference between contractual amounts to be paid pursuant to the contracts acquired and our estimate of the fair market contract rates for corresponding contracts. Contracts acquired that are at market do not have significant value. We typically enter into a new hotel management agreement based on market terms at the time of acquisition. Intangible assets are amortized using the straight-line method over the remaining non-cancelable term of the related agreements. In making estimates of fair values for purposes of allocating purchase price, we may utilize a number of sources that may be obtained in connection with the acquisition or financing of a property and other market data. Management also considers information obtained about each property as a result of its pre-acquisition due diligence in estimating the fair value of the tangible and intangible assets acquired.

We review our investments in hotels for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of the investments in hotels may not be recoverable. Events or circumstances that may cause us to perform a review include, but are not limited to, adverse changes in the demand for lodging at our properties due to declining national or local economic conditions and/or new hotel construction in markets where our hotels are located. When such conditions exist, management performs an analysis to determine if the estimated undiscounted future cash flows from operations and the proceeds from the ultimate disposition of an investment in a hotel exceed the hotel's carrying value. If the estimated undiscounted future cash flows are less than the carrying amount of the asset, an adjustment to reduce the carrying value to the estimated fair market value is recorded and an impairment loss recognized.

While our hotels have experienced improvement in certain key operating measures as the general economic conditions improve, the operating performance at certain of our hotels has not achieved our expected levels. As part of our overall capital

## [Table of Contents](#)

allocation strategy, we assess underperforming hotels for possible disposition, which could result in a reduction in the carrying values of these properties.

*Revenue Recognition.* Hotel revenues, including room, golf, food and beverage, and other hotel revenues, are recognized as the related services are provided. Additionally, our operators collect sales, use, occupancy and similar taxes at our hotels which are excluded from revenue in our consolidated statements of operations (revenue is recorded net of such taxes).

*Stock-based Compensation.* We account for stock-based employee compensation using the fair value based method of accounting. We record the cost of awards with service conditions and market conditions based on the grant-date fair value of the award. For awards based on market conditions, the grant-date fair value is derived using an open form valuation model. The cost of the award is recognized over the period during which an employee is required to provide service in exchange for the award. No compensation cost is recognized for equity instruments for which employees do not render the requisite service.

*Income Taxes.* Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the estimated future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates in effect for the year in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities from a change in tax rates is recognized in earnings in the period when the new rate is enacted.

We have elected to be treated as a REIT under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code and, as such, are not subject to federal income tax, provided we distribute all of our taxable income annually to our stockholders and comply with certain other requirements. In addition to paying federal and state income tax on any retained income, we are subject to taxes on “built-in-gains” on sales of certain assets. Additionally, our taxable REIT subsidiaries are subject to federal, state and foreign income tax.

*Notes Receivable.* We initially record acquired notes receivable at cost. Notes receivable are evaluated for collectability and if collectability of the original amounts due is in doubt, the value is adjusted for impairment. If collectability is in doubt, the note is placed in non-accrual status. No interest is recorded on such notes until the timing and amounts of cash receipts can be reasonably estimated. We record cash payments received on non-accrual notes receivable as a reduction in basis. We continually assess the current facts and circumstances to determine whether we can reasonably estimate cash flows. If we can reasonably estimate the timing and amount of cash flows to be collected, then income recognition becomes possible.

## **Inflation**

Operators of hotels, in general, possess the ability to adjust room rates daily to reflect the effects of inflation. However, competitive pressures may limit the ability of our management companies to raise room rates.

## **Seasonality**

The operations of hotels historically have been seasonal depending on location, and accordingly, we expect some seasonality in our business. Historically, we have experienced approximately two-thirds of our annual income in the second and fourth fiscal quarters.

## **New Accounting Pronouncements Not Yet Implemented**

There are no new unimplemented accounting pronouncements that are expected to have a material impact on our results of operations, financial position or cash flows.

## **Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk**

Market risk includes risks that arise from changes in interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates, commodity prices, equity prices and other market changes that affect market sensitive instruments. In pursuing our business strategies, the primary market risk to which we are currently exposed, and, to which we expect to be exposed in the future, is interest rate risk. The face amount of our outstanding debt as of March 23, 2012 was \$902.2 million, of which \$170.4 million was variable rate. If market rates of interest on our variable rate debt fluctuate by 25 basis points, interest expense would increase or decrease, depending on rate movement, future earnings and cash flows, by \$0.4 million annually.

We use our interest rate cap to manage interest rate risk related to our variable rate debt secured by the Lexington Hotel New York. The change in fair value of our interest rate cap is a non-cash transaction and is recorded as a credit or charge to interest expense.

**Item 4. Controls and Procedures**

The Company's management has evaluated, under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act")), as required by paragraph (b) of Rules 13a-15 and 15d-15 under the Exchange Act, and has concluded that as of the end of the period covered by this report, the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective to give reasonable assurances that information we disclose in reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms.

There was no change in the Company's internal control over financial reporting identified in connection with the evaluation required by paragraph (d) of Rules 13a-15 and 15d-15 under the Exchange Act during the Company's most recent fiscal quarter that materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

## **PART II. OTHER INFORMATION**

### **Item 1.        *Legal Proceedings***

Except as described below, we are not involved in any material litigation nor, to our knowledge, is any material litigation pending or threatened against us. We are involved in routine litigation arising out of the ordinary course of business, all of which is expected to be covered by insurance and is not expected to have a material adverse impact on our financial condition or results of operations.

#### *Allerton Loan*

We hold the senior mortgage loan secured by the Allerton Hotel, located in downtown Chicago, Illinois. The loan matured in January 2010 and is in default. In May 2011, the borrower under the loan filed for bankruptcy protection in the Northern District of Illinois under chapter 11 of Title 11 of the U.S. Code, 11 U.S.C. §§ 101 et seq., as amended. The senior mortgage loan is secured by substantially all of the assets of the borrower, including the Allerton Hotel. The filing of the bankruptcy case had the effect of, among other things, automatically staying the foreclosure proceedings that had been previously filed against the borrower. The borrower filed a plan of reorganization with the bankruptcy court in December 2011 and a disclosure statement with the bankruptcy court in January 2012 (together, the "Plan"). In March 2012, the Plan was approved for submission to the creditors for a vote to approve the Plan. If the creditors approve the Plan, then the Plan will be subject to a confirmation hearing, which is currently scheduled for July 2012. While we continue to vigorously pursue our rights in the bankruptcy case, the potential outcome is uncertain.

In August 2011, we filed a claim in New York State court under a so-called "bad boy guarantee" against an affiliate of the borrower for certain damages incurred as a result of the bankruptcy filing. In January 2012, the New York State court granted summary judgment in our favor, finding the guarantor liable for legal fees incurred by the Company arising out of the bankruptcy filing and we are preparing for a hearing on the reasonableness of the amount of fees. No assurance can be given, however, that we will be successful in collecting the amounts due to us upon a determination of the amount of damages due to us.

#### *Los Angeles Airport Marriott Litigation*

During 2011, we accrued \$1.7 million for our contribution to the settlement of litigation involving the Los Angeles Airport Marriott. The settlement was recorded as a corporate expense during the year ended December 31, 2011. The Company and certain other defendants reached a tentative settlement of the matter, which involved claims by certain employees at the Los Angeles Airport Marriott. The settlement is pending approval by the Superior Court of California, Los Angeles County.

### **Item 1A.      *Risk Factors***

There have been no material changes in the risk factors described in Item 1A of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011.

### **Item 2.        *Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds***

None.

### **Item 3.        *Defaults Upon Senior Securities***

Not applicable.

### **Item 4.        *Mine Safety Disclosures***

Not applicable.

### **Item 5.        *Other Information***

None.



**Item 6. Exhibits**

**(a) Exhibits**

The following exhibits are filed as part of this Form 10-Q:

**Exhibit**

---

- 3.1.1 Articles of Amendment and Restatement of the Articles of Incorporation of DiamondRock Hospitality Company (*incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-11 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (File no. 333-123065)*)
- 3.1.2 Amendment to the Articles of Amendment and Restatement of the Articles of Incorporation of DiamondRock Hospitality Company (*incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 10, 2007*)
- 3.2 Third Amended and Restated Bylaws of DiamondRock Hospitality Company (*incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 17, 2009*)
- 4.1 Form of Certificate for Common Stock for DiamondRock Hospitality Company (*incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 5, 2010*)
- 10.13\* Form of Severance Agreement (and schedule of material differences thereto)
- 10.20\* Severance Agreement between DiamondRock Hospitality Company and William J. Tennis dated as of December 16, 2009
- 31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer Required by Rule 13a-14(a) and Rule 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended
- 31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer Required by Rule 13a-14(a) and Rule 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended
- 32.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

Attached as Exhibit 101 to this report are the following materials from DiamondRock Hospitality Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 23, 2012 formatted in XBRL (eXtensible Business Reporting Language): (i) the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets, (ii) the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations, (iii) the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows, and (iv) the related notes to these condensed consolidated financial statements. As provided in Rule 406T of Regulation S-T, this information is furnished and not filed for purposes of Sections 11 and 12 of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

---

\* Exhibit is a management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement.

**SIGNATURE**

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

DiamondRock Hospitality Company

April 30, 2012

/s/ Sean M. Mahoney

Sean M. Mahoney

Executive Vice President and

Chief Financial Officer

(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

/s/ William J. Tennis

William J. Tennis

Executive Vice President,

General Counsel and Corporate Secretary

## SEVERANCE AGREEMENT

THIS SEVERANCE AGREEMENT (the “**Agreement**”) is made this 9<sup>th</sup> day of March 2007, by DiamondRock Hospitality Company, a Maryland corporation (the “**REIT**”), with its principal place of business at 6903 Rockledge Drive, Suite 800, Bethesda, Maryland 20817 and [\_\_\_\_], residing at [\_\_\_\_] (the “**Executive**”).

### 1. Purpose

The REIT considers it essential to the best interests of its stockholders to promote and preserve the continuous employment of key management personnel. The Board of Directors of the REIT (the “**Board of Directors**”) recognizes that, as in the case with many corporations, the possibility of a termination of employment exists and that such possibility, and the uncertainty and questions that it may raise among management, may result in the distraction of key management personnel to the detriment of the REIT and its stockholders. Therefore, the Board of Directors has determined that appropriate steps should be taken to reinforce and encourage the continued attention and dedication of members of the REIT's key management. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as creating an express or implied contract of employment and, except as otherwise agreed in writing between the Executive and the REIT, the Executive shall not have any right to be retained in the employ of the REIT.

### 2. Definitions

(a) **Accrued Salary.** “Accrued Salary” shall mean accrued and unpaid base salary through the Date of Termination. In addition, in the event the Executive's annual bonus for the REIT's most recently completed fiscal year has not yet been paid to the Executive, then Accrued Salary also shall include such prior fiscal year's earned, accrued and unpaid bonus.

(b) **Cause.** “Cause” for termination shall mean a determination by the Board of Directors in good faith that any of the following events has occurred: (i) indictment of the Executive of, or the conviction or entry of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere by the Executive to any felony, or any misdemeanor involving moral turpitude; (ii) the Executive engaging in conduct which constitutes a material breach of a fiduciary duty or duty of loyalty, including without limitation, misappropriation of funds or property of the REIT, DiamondRock Hospitality Limited Partnership (the “**Operating Partnership**”) and their subsidiaries (the REIT, the Operating Partnership and their subsidiaries are hereinafter referred to as the “**DiamondRock Group**”) other than an occasional and de minimis use of Company property for personal purposes; (iii) the Executive's willful failure or gross negligence in the performance of his assigned duties for the DiamondRock Group, which failure or gross negligence continues for more than 5 days following the Executive's receipt of written or electronic notice of such willful failure or gross negligence from the Board of Directors; (iv) any act or omission of the Executive that has a demonstrated and material adverse impact on the DiamondRock Group's reputation for honesty and fair dealing or any other conduct of the Executive that would reasonably be expected to result in injury to the reputation of the DiamondRock Group; or (v) willful failure to cooperate with a bona fide internal investigation or an investigation by regulatory or law enforcement authorities, after being instructed by the REIT to cooperate, or the willful destruction or failure to preserve documents or other materials known to be relevant to such investigation or the willful inducement of others to fail to cooperate, destroy or fail to produce documents or other materials.

For purposes of this Section 2(b), any act, or failure to act, based upon authority given pursuant to a resolution duly adopted by the Board of Directors or based upon the written advice of counsel for the DiamondRock Group shall be conclusively presumed to be done, or omitted to be done, by the Executive in good faith and in the best interests of the DiamondRock Group. The cessation of employment of the Executive shall not be deemed to be for Cause unless and until there shall have been delivered to the Executive a copy of a resolution duly adopted by the affirmative vote of the Board of Directors, finding that, in the good faith opinion of the Board of Directors, the Executive has engaged in the conduct described in this Section 2(b); provided, that if the Executive is a member of the Board of Directors, the Executive shall not vote on such resolution.

- (c) **Change in Control.** “Change in Control” shall mean any of the following events:
- (i) The conclusion of the acquisition (whether by a merger or otherwise) by any Person (other than a Qualified Affiliate), in a single transaction or a series of related transactions, of Beneficial Ownership of more than 50 % of (1) the REIT's outstanding common stock (the “**Common Stock**”) or (2) the combined voting power of the REIT's outstanding securities entitled to vote generally in the election of directors (the “**Outstanding Voting Securities**”);
  - (ii) The merger or consolidation of the REIT with or into any other Person other than a Qualified Affiliate, if the directors immediately prior to the merger or consolidation cease to be the majority of the Board of Directors at anytime within 12 months of the completion of the merger or consolidation;
  - (iii) Any one or a series of related sales or conveyances to any Person or Persons (including a liquidation or dissolution) other than any one or more Qualified Affiliates of all or substantially all of the assets of the REIT or the Operating Partnership; or
  - (iv) Incumbent Directors cease, for any reason, to be a majority of the members of the Board of Directors, where an “**Incumbent Director**” is (1) an individual who is a member of the Board of Directors on the effective date of this Agreement or (2) any new director whose appointment by the Board of Directors or whose nomination for election by the stockholders was approved by a majority of the persons who were already Incumbent Directors at the time of such appointment, election or approval, other than any individual who assumes office initially as a result of an actual or threatened election contest with respect to the election or removal of directors or other actual or threatened solicitation of proxies or consents by or on behalf of a Person other than the Board of Directors or as a result of an agreement to avoid or settle such a contest or solicitation.

A Change in Control shall also be deemed to have occurred upon the completion of a tender offer for the REIT's securities representing more than 50% of the Outstanding Voting Securities, other than a tender offer by a Qualified Affiliate.

For purposes of this definition of Change in Control, the following definitions shall apply: (A) “**Beneficial Ownership**,” “**Beneficially Owned**” and “**Beneficially Owns**” shall have the meanings provided in Exchange Act Rule 13d-3; (B) “**Exchange Act**” shall mean the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; (C) “**Person**” shall mean any individual, entity, or group (within the meaning of Section 13(d)(3) or 14(d)(2) of the Exchange Act), including any natural person, corporation, trust,

association, company, partnership, joint venture, limited liability company, legal entity of any kind, government, or political subdivision, agency or instrumentality of a government, as well as two or more Persons acting as a partnership, limited partnership, syndicate or other group for the purpose of acquiring, holding or disposing of the REIT's securities; and (D) **"Qualified Affiliate"** shall mean (I) any directly or indirectly wholly owned subsidiary of the REIT or the Operating Partnership; (II) any employee benefit plan (or related trust) sponsored or maintained by the REIT or the Operating Partnership or by any entity controlled by the REIT or the Operating Partnership; or (III) any Person consisting in whole or in part of the Executive or one or more individuals who are then the REIT's Chief Executive Officer or any other named executive officer (as defined in Item 402 of Regulation S-K under the Securities Act of 1933) of the REIT as indicated in its most recent securities filing made before the date of the transaction.

(d) **Date of Termination.** "Date of Termination" shall mean the actual date of the Executive's termination of employment with the REIT.

(e) **Disability.** "Disability" shall mean if the Executive is unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months.

(f) **Good Reason.** "Good Reason" for termination shall mean the occurrence of one of the following events, without the Executive's prior written consent, provided such event is not corrected within 15 days following the Board of Director's receipt of written or electronic notice of such event: (i) a material diminution in the Executive's duties or responsibilities or any material demotion from the Executive's current position at the REIT, including, without limitation: (A) if the Executive is the CEO, either discontinuing his direct reporting to the Board of Directors or a committee thereof or discontinuing the direct reporting to the CEO by each of the senior executives responsible for finance, legal, acquisition and operations or (B) if the Executive is not the CEO, discontinuing the Executive reporting directly to the CEO or (C) if the Executive is the Chief Accounting Officer, discontinuing the Executive's reporting directly to the Chief Financial Officer or to the Chief Executive Officer; (ii) if the Executive is a member of the Board of Directors, the failure of the REIT or its affiliates to nominate the Executive as a Director of the REIT; (iii) a requirement that the Executive work principally from a location outside the 50 mile radius from the REIT's address, except for required travel on the REIT's business to the extent substantially consistent with the Executive's business travel obligations on the date hereof; (iv) failure to pay the Executive any compensation, benefits or to honor any indemnification agreement to which the Executive is entitled within 30 days of the date due; or (v) the occurrence of any of the following events or conditions in the year immediately following a Change in Control: (A) a reduction in the Executive's annual base salary or annual bonus opportunity as in effect immediately prior to the Change in Control; (B) the failure of the REIT to obtain an agreement, reasonably satisfactory to the Executive, from any successor or assign of the REIT to assume and agree to adopt this Agreement for a period of at least two years from the Change in Control.

(g) **Restricted Period.** The "Restricted Period" shall mean, the Executive's employment with the REIT, which period may be extended for an additional period of 12 months if the Executive is entitled to, and receives, the Cash Severance specified under Section 3(b)(2) hereof.

(h) **Retirement.** As used in this Agreement, "Retirement" shall mean a retirement by the Executive if the Executive has been designated as an eligible retiree by the Board of Directors, in the Board's sole discretion.

### 3. Effect of Termination

(a) **Any Termination.** If the Executive's employment with the REIT terminates for any reason, the Executive shall be entitled to any Accrued Salary. The Executive shall have no rights or claims against the DiamondRock Group except to receive the payments and benefits described in this Section 3. The REIT shall have no further obligations to Executive except as otherwise expressly provided under this Agreement, provided any such termination shall not adversely affect or alter Executive's rights under any employee benefit plan of the REIT in which Executive, at the Date of Termination, has a vested interest, unless otherwise provided in such employee benefit plan or any agreement or other instrument attendant thereto.

None of the benefits described in this Section 3 (other than Accrued Salary) will be payable unless the Executive has signed a general release which has become irrevocable, satisfactory to the REIT in the reasonable exercise of its discretion, releasing the DiamondRock Group, its affiliates including the REIT, and their officers, directors and employees, from any and all claims or potential claims arising from or related to the Executive's employment or termination of employment. In addition, the benefits described in this Section 3 (other than Accrued Salary) are conditioned upon the Executive's ongoing compliance with his/her restrictions, covenants and promises under Sections 4, 5, 6 and 7 below (as applicable).

In addition, in the event the Executive's termination of employment occurs in connection with or following a Change in Control, then:

- (i) In the event that any payment made pursuant to Section 3 hereof or any insurance benefits, accelerated vesting, pro-rated bonus or other benefit payable to the Executive under this Agreement or otherwise (the "**Severance Payments**"), (1) constitute "parachute payments" within the meaning of Section 280G (as it may be amended or replaced) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "**Code**") ("**Parachute Payments**"); (2) are subject to the excise tax imposed by Section 4999 (as it may be amended or replaced) of the Code (the "**Excise Tax**"); and (3) exceed the Threshold Amount by 10% or more, then the REIT shall pay to the Executive an additional amount (the "**Gross-Up Amount**") such that the net benefits retained by the Executive after the deduction of the Excise Tax (including interest and penalties) and any federal, or local income and employment taxes (including interest and penalties) upon the Gross-Up Amount shall be equal to the benefits that would have been delivered hereunder had the Excise Tax not been applicable and the Gross-Up Amount not been paid.
- (ii) In the event that the Severance Payments (1) constitute Parachute Payments; (2) are subject to the Excise Tax; and (3) exceed the Threshold Amount by less than 10%, then the benefits payable under this Agreement shall be reduced (but not below zero) to the extent necessary so that the Severance Payments shall not exceed the Threshold Amount. To the extent that there is more than one method of reducing the Severance Payments to bring them within the Threshold Amount, Executive shall determine which method shall be followed; provided that if Executive fails to make such determination within 15 days after the REIT has sent Executive written notice of the need for such reduction, the REIT may determine the amount of such reduction in its sole discretion.

- (iii) “**Threshold Amount**” shall mean three times Executive's “base amount” within the meaning of Section 280G(b)(3) of the Code and the regulations promulgated thereunder less one dollar (\$1.00).
- (iv) For purposes of determining the Gross-Up Amount: (1) Parachute Payments provided under arrangements with the Executive other than under any bonus or other incentive pay or stock plan or program of the REIT (collectively, the “**Plan**”) and this Agreement, if any, shall be taken into account in determining the total amount of Parachute Payments received by the Executive so that the amount of excess Parachute Payments that are attributable to provisions of the Plan and Agreement is maximized; and (2) the Executive shall be deemed to pay federal, state and local income taxes at the highest marginal rate of taxation for the Executive's taxable year in which the Parachute Payments are includable in the Executive's income for purposes of federal, state and local income taxation.
- (v) The determination of whether the Excise Tax is payable, the amount thereof, and the amount of any Gross-Up Amount shall be made in writing in good faith by a nationally recognized independent certified public accounting firm selected by the REIT and approved by the Executive, such approval not to be unreasonably withheld (the “**Accounting Firm**”). If such determination is not finally accepted by the Internal Revenue Service (or state or local revenue authorities) on audit, then appropriate adjustments shall be computed based upon the amount of Excise Tax and any interest or penalties so determined; provided, however, that the Executive in no event shall owe the REIT any interest on any portion of the Gross-Up Amount that is returned to the REIT. For purposes of making the calculations required by this Section 3(a)(v), to the extent not otherwise specified herein, reasonable assumptions and approximations may be made with respect to applicable taxes and reasonable, good faith interpretations of the Code may be relied upon. The REIT and the Executive shall furnish such information and documents as may be reasonably requested in connection with the performance of the calculations under this Section 3(a)(v). The REIT shall bear all costs incurred in connection with the performance of the calculations contemplated by this Section 3(a)(v). The REIT shall pay the Gross-Up Amount to the Executive no later than 60 days following receipt of the Accounting Firm's determination of the Gross-Up Amount.

(b) **Termination by the REIT without Cause or by Executive for Good Reason.** If the REIT terminates the Executive's employment without Cause, or the Executive terminates his employment for Good Reason, then in addition to the benefits under Section 3(a) above, the Executive shall be entitled to receive the following:

- (i) a pro-rata bonus for the fiscal year determined through the Date of Termination and calculated based on the target bonus for such fiscal year;
- (ii) an amount equal to (A) [three/two] times (B) the sum of (I) the Executive's base salary in effect immediately prior to the Date of Termination, and (II) the Executive's target annual bonus (collectively, the “**Cash Severance**”);
- (iii) continued payment by the REIT for health insurance coverage for the Executive and the Executive's spouse and dependents for 18 months, consistent with COBRA following the Date of Termination to the same

extent that the REIT paid for such coverage immediately prior to the termination of the Executive's employment and subject to the eligibility requirements and other terms and conditions of such insurance coverage, provided that if any such insurance coverage shall become unavailable and/or the REIT's insurer refuses to continue coverage during the 18 month period, the REIT thereafter shall be obliged only to pay to the Executive an amount which, after reduction for income and employment taxes, is equal to the preexisting employer premiums for such insurance for the remainder of such severance period.

- (iv) vesting as of the Date of Termination of 100% of all unvested time-based restricted stock awards, to the extent permitted by law. The treatment of equity compensation awards that are not time based vesting (such as restricted stock which vests based on one or more performance metrics) granted after the effective date of this agreement will be specified in individual grant agreements covering such awards.

(c) **Termination In the Event of Death or Disability.** If the Executive's employment terminates because of the Executive's death or Disability, then in addition to the benefits under Section 3(a) above, the Executive (or his estate or other legal representatives, as the case may be) shall be entitled to receive:

- (i) a pro-rata bonus for the fiscal year determined through the Date of Termination and calculated based on the target bonus for such fiscal year;
- (ii) continued payment by the REIT for health insurance coverage for the Executive and the Executive's spouse and dependents for 18 months, consistent with COBRA, following the Date of Termination to the same extent that the REIT paid for such coverage immediately prior to the termination of the Executive's employment and subject to the eligibility requirements and other terms and conditions of such insurance coverage, provided that if any such insurance coverage shall become unavailable and/or the REIT's insurer refuses to continue coverage during the 18 month period, the REIT thereafter shall be obliged only to pay to the Executive an amount which, after reduction for income and employment taxes, is equal to the preexisting employer premiums for such insurance for the remainder of such severance period.
- (iii) vesting as of the Date of Termination of 100% of all unvested time-based restricted stock awards, to the extent permitted by law. The treatment of equity compensation awards that are not time based vesting (such as restricted stock which vests based on one or more performance metrics) granted after the effective date of this agreement will be specified in individual grant agreements covering such awards.

(d) **Termination In the Event of Retirement.** If the Executive's employment terminates because of his Retirement, then in addition to the benefits under Section 3(a) above, the Executive shall be entitled to receive the following:

- (i) a pro-rata bonus for the fiscal year determined through the Date of Termination and calculated based on the target bonus for such fiscal year; and



- (ii) notwithstanding the Retirement by the Executive, all unvested time-based restricted stock awards shall continue to vest at the times and on the terms as set forth in the relevant restricted stock award agreements as if the Executive remained continuously employed by the REIT from the Date of Termination through each such vesting date. The treatment of non-time-based equity compensation awards (such as restricted stock which vests based on one or more performance metrics) granted after the effective date of this agreement will be specified in individual grant agreements covering such awards.

#### 4. **Non-Disparagement**

The Executive agrees that he/she will not, whether during or after the Executive's employment with the REIT, make any statement, orally or in writing, regardless of whether such statement is truthful, nor take any action, that (a) in any way could disparage the DiamondRock Group or any officers, executives, directors, partners, managers, members, principals, employees, representatives, or agents of the DiamondRock Group, or which foreseeably could or reasonably could be expected to harm the reputation or goodwill of any of those persons or entities, or (b) in any way, directly or indirectly, could knowingly cause, encourage or condone the making of such statements or the taking of such actions by anyone else.

#### 5. **Non-Competition**

(a) **Non-Competition.** Subject to Section 5(b) hereof, the Executive agrees that during the Restricted Period the Executive shall not, without the prior express written consent of the REIT, directly or indirectly, anywhere in the United States, own an interest in, join, operate, control or participate in, or be connected as an owner, officer, executive, employee, partner, member, manager, shareholder, or principal of or with, any lodging-oriented real estate investment company. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Executive may own up to one percent (1%) of the outstanding stock of a real estate investment company. The restrictions of this Section 5(a) shall not apply if the Executive's employment with the REIT is terminated for any reason by the Company or the Executive effective during the 12 month period immediately following a Change in Control.

(b) **Board's Discretion.** Notwithstanding anything contained herein, the Board of Directors retains the right, in its sole discretion, to shorten or eliminate the post-employment Restricted Period for any Executive.

6. **Non-Solicitation of Employees.** The Executive agrees that while he/she is employed as an employee of the REIT and for a period of 12 months after the termination of the Employee's employment with the REIT for whatever reason, the Employee shall not, without the express written consent of the REIT, hire, solicit, recruit, induce or procure (or assist or encourage any other person or entity to hire, solicit, recruit, induce or procure), directly or indirectly or on behalf of himself or any other person or entity, any officer, executive, director, partner, principal, member, or non-clerical employee of the DiamondRock Group or any person who was an officer, executive, director, partner, principal, member, or non-clerical employee of the DiamondRock Group at any time during the final year of the Executive's employment with the REIT, to work for the Executive or any person or entity with which the Executive is or intends to be affiliated or otherwise directly or indirectly encourage any such person to terminate his or her employment or other relationship with the DiamondRock Group without the prior express written consent of the REIT. Notwithstanding anything contained herein, the foregoing shall not restrain the

Executive from hiring, soliciting, recruiting, inducing or procuring any person to work for the Executive or any person or entity with which the Executive is or intends to be affiliated if such person was either terminated by the REIT or such person resigned for Good Reason. In addition, the Board of Directors retains the right, in its sole discretion, to release any Executive from its obligations under this Section.

7. **Injunctive Relief.** The Executive understands that the restrictions contained in Section 4, 5 and 6 of this Agreement are intended to protect the REIT's interests in its proprietary information, goodwill, and its employee and investor relationships, and agrees that such restrictions (and the scope and duration thereof) are necessary, reasonable and appropriate for this purpose. The Executive acknowledges and agrees that it would be difficult to measure any damages caused to the REIT which might result from any breach by the Executive of his promises and obligations under Sections 4, 5 and/or 6, that the REIT would be irreparably harmed by such breach, and that, in any event, money damages would be an inadequate remedy for any such breach. Therefore, the Executive agrees and consents that the REIT shall be entitled to an injunction or other appropriate equitable relief (in addition to all other remedies it may have for damages or otherwise) to restrain any such breach or threatened breach without showing or proving any actual damage to the REIT; and the REIT shall be entitled to an award of its attorneys fees and costs incurred in enforcing the Executive's obligations under Sections 4, 5 and/or 6.

8. **Miscellaneous**

(a) **409A.** Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, if the Executive is a "key employee" (as defined in Section 416(i) of the Code without regard to paragraph (5) thereof) and any of the REIT's stock is publicly traded on an established securities market or otherwise, to the extent necessary to avoid any penalties under Section 409A of the Code, any payment hereunder may not be made before the date that is six months after the date of separation from service.

(b) **Tax Withholding.** All payments made by the REIT under this Agreement shall be net of any tax or other amounts required to be withheld by the REIT under applicable law.

(c) **No Mitigation.** The REIT agrees that, if the Executive's employment by the REIT is terminated during the term of this Agreement, the Executive is not required to seek other employment or to attempt in any way to reduce any amounts payable to the Executive by the REIT pursuant to Section 3 hereof. Further, the amount of any payment provided for in this Agreement shall not be reduced by any compensation earned by the Executive as the result of employment by another employer, by retirement benefits, by offset against any amount claimed to be owed by the Executive to the REIT or otherwise.

(d) **No Offset.** The REIT's obligation to make the payments provided for in this Agreement and otherwise perform its obligations hereunder shall not be affected by any circumstances, including, without limitation, any set-off, counterclaim, recoupment, defense or other right which the REIT, the Operating Partnership or any of their subsidiaries may have against the Executive or others unless such set-off, counterclaim, recoupment, defense, or other right arises from the Executive engaging in conduct which constitutes a material breach of a fiduciary duty or duty of loyalty, including without limitation, misappropriation of funds or property of the Operating Partnership and their subsidiaries.

(e) **Litigation and Regulatory Cooperation.** During and after Executive's employment, Executive shall reasonably cooperate with the REIT in the defense or prosecution of any claims or actions now in existence or which may be brought in the future against or on behalf of the REIT which relate to events or occurrences that transpired while Executive was employed by the REIT; provided, however, that such cooperation shall not materially and adversely affect Executive or expose

Executive to an increased probability of civil or criminal litigation. Executive's cooperation in connection with such claims or actions shall include, but not be limited to, being available to meet with counsel to prepare for discovery or trial and to act as a witness on behalf of the REIT at mutually convenient times. During and after Executive's employment, Executive also shall cooperate fully with the REIT in connection with any investigation or review of any federal, state or local regulatory authority as any such investigation or review relates to events or occurrences that transpired while Executive was employed by the REIT. The REIT shall also provide Executive with compensation on an hourly basis (to be derived from the sum of his Base Salary and average annual incentive compensation) for requested litigation and regulatory cooperation that occurs after his termination of employment, and reimburse Executive for all costs and expenses incurred in connection with his performance under this Section 8(e), including, but not limited to, reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.

(f) **Notices.** All notices required or permitted under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed effective (i) upon personal delivery, (ii) upon deposit with the United States Postal Service, by registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, or (iii) in the case of facsimile transmission or delivery by nationally recognized overnight delivery service, when received, addressed as follows:

- (i) If to the REIT, to:  
DiamondRock Hospitality Company  
6903 Rockledge Drive, Suite 800; Bethesda, MD 20817

Facsimile: (240) 744-1199

Attn: 1) Lead Director; 2) Chairman of the Board and 3) Chairman of the Compensation Committee

- (ii) If to the Executive, to:

or to such other address or addresses as either party shall designate to the other in writing from time to time by like notice.

(g) **Pronouns.** Whenever the context may require, any pronouns used in this Agreement shall include the corresponding masculine, feminine or neuter forms, and the singular forms of nouns and pronouns shall include the plural, and vice versa.

(h) **Entire Agreement.** This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings, whether written or oral, relating to the subject matter of this Agreement, including without limitation the [employment agreement dated as of June 4, 2004][letter agreement dated as of June 30, 2004]. For the avoidance of doubt, such [employment][letter] agreement is hereby terminated and the Executive hereby waives any rights that he may have under such agreement.

(i) **Amendment.** This Agreement may be amended or modified only by a written instrument executed by both the REIT and the Executive.

(j) **Governing Law and Forum.** This Agreement shall be construed, interpreted and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Maryland, without regard to its conflicts of laws principles, by a court of competent jurisdiction located within the State of Maryland.

(k) **Successors and Assigns.** This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of both parties and their respective successors and assigns, including any entity with which or into which the REIT may be merged or which may succeed to its assets or business or any entity to which the REIT may assign its rights and obligations under this Agreement; provided, however, that the obligations of the Executive are personal and shall not be assigned or delegated by him.

(l) **Waiver.** No delays or omission by the REIT or the Executive in exercising any right under this Agreement shall operate as a waiver of that or any other right. A waiver or consent given by the REIT or the Executive on any one occasion shall be effective only in that instance and shall not be construed as a bar or waiver of any right on any other occasion.

(m) **Captions.** The captions appearing in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only and in no way define, limit or affect the scope or substance of any section of this Agreement.

(n) **Severability.** In case any provision of this Agreement shall be held by a court or arbitrator with jurisdiction over the parties to this Agreement to be invalid, illegal or otherwise unenforceable, such provision shall be restated to reflect as nearly as possible the original intentions of the parties in accordance with applicable law, and the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining provisions shall in no way be affected or impaired thereby. In the event that any portion or provision of this Agreement (including, without limitation, any portion or provision of Sections 4, 5, and/or 6) is determined by a court or arbitrator of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, illegal or otherwise unenforceable by reason of excessive scope as to geographic, temporal or functional coverage, such provision will be reformed and deemed to extend only over the maximum geographic, temporal and functional scope as to which it may be enforceable and shall be enforced by said court or arbitrator accordingly.

(o) **Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the day and year first above written.

DIAMONDROCK HOSPITALITY COMPANY

By: \_\_\_\_\_

EXECUTIVE

\_\_\_\_\_

### Schedule of Material Differences

Below are the material differences in Form of Severance Agreement, dated as of March 9, 2007 between DiamondRock Hospitality Company and each of Mark W. Brugger, John L. Williams and Sean M. Mahoney:

Executive Officer	Title	Cash Severance Benefits *
Mark W. Brugger	Chief Executive Officer	Lump sum payment equal to three times the sum of (x) his then current base salary and (y) his target bonus under our annual cash incentive compensation program.
John L. Williams Sean M. Mahoney	President and Chief Operating Officer Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer	Lump sum payment equal to two times the sum of (x) his then current base salary and (y) his target bonus under our annual cash incentive compensation program.

\*Assuming the Executive Officer is entitled to receive cash severance benefits under the terms of the Severance Agreement.

## SEVERANCE AGREEMENT

THIS SEVERANCE AGREEMENT (the “**Agreement**”) is made this 16 day of December 2009, by DiamondRock Hospitality Company, a Maryland corporation (the “**REIT**”), with its principal place of business at 6903 Rockledge Drive, Suite 800, Bethesda, Maryland 20817 and William J. Tennis, residing at 8113 River Falls Drive, Potomac, Maryland 20854 (the “**Executive**”). This Agreement is effective as of January 4, 2010; the first day of employment of Mr. Tennis.

1. **Purpose**

The REIT considers it essential to the best interests of its stockholders to promote and preserve the continuous employment of key management personnel. The Board of Directors of the REIT (the “**Board of Directors**”) recognizes that, as in the case with many corporations, the possibility of a termination of employment exists and that such possibility, and the uncertainty and questions that it may raise among management, may result in the distraction of key management personnel to the detriment of the REIT and its stockholders. Therefore, the Board of Directors has determined that appropriate steps should be taken to reinforce and encourage the continued attention and dedication of members of the REIT's key management. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as creating an express or implied contract of employment and, except as otherwise agreed in writing between the Executive and the REIT, the Executive shall not have any right to be retained in the employ of the REIT.

2. **Definitions**

(a) **Accrued Salary.** “Accrued Salary” shall mean accrued and unpaid base salary through the Date of Termination. In addition, in the event the Executive's annual bonus for the REIT's most recently completed fiscal year has not yet been paid to the Executive, then Accrued Salary also shall include such prior fiscal year's earned, accrued and unpaid bonus.

(b) **Cause.** “Cause” for termination shall mean a determination by the Board of Directors in good faith that any of the following events has occurred: (i) indictment of the Executive of, or the conviction or entry of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere by the Executive to any felony, or any misdemeanor involving moral turpitude; (ii) the Executive engaging in conduct which constitutes a material breach of a fiduciary duty or duty of loyalty, including without limitation, misappropriation of funds or property of the REIT, DiamondRock Hospitality Limited Partnership (the “**Operating Partnership**”) and their subsidiaries (the REIT, the Operating Partnership and their subsidiaries are hereinafter referred to as the “**DiamondRock Group**”) other than an occasional and de minimis use of Company property for personal purposes; (iii) the Executive's willful failure or gross negligence in the performance of his assigned duties for the DiamondRock Group, which failure or gross negligence continues for more than 5 days following the Executive's receipt of written or electronic notice of such willful failure or gross negligence from the Board of Directors; (iv) any act or omission of the Executive that has a demonstrated and material adverse impact on the DiamondRock Group's reputation for honesty and fair dealing or any other conduct of the Executive that would reasonably be expected to result in injury to the reputation of the DiamondRock Group; or (v) willful failure to cooperate with a bona fide internal investigation or an investigation by regulatory or law enforcement authorities, after being instructed by the REIT to cooperate, or the willful destruction or failure to preserve documents or other materials known to be relevant to such investigation or the willful inducement of others to fail to cooperate, destroy or fail to produce documents or other materials.

For purposes of this Section 2(b), any act, or failure to act, based upon authority given pursuant to a resolution duly adopted by the Board of Directors or based upon the written advice of counsel for the DiamondRock Group shall be conclusively presumed to be done, or omitted to be done, by the Executive in good faith and in the best interests of the DiamondRock Group. The cessation of employment of the Executive shall not be deemed to be for Cause unless and until there shall have been delivered to the Executive a copy of a resolution duly adopted by the affirmative vote of the Board of Directors, finding that, in the good faith opinion of the Board of Directors, the Executive has engaged in the conduct described in this Section 2(b); provided, that if the Executive is a member of the Board of Directors, the Executive shall not vote on such resolution.

(c) **Change in Control.** “Change in Control” shall mean any of the following events:

- (i) The conclusion of the acquisition (whether by a merger or otherwise) by any Person (other than a Qualified Affiliate), in a single transaction or a series of related transactions, of Beneficial Ownership of more than 50 % of (1) the REIT's outstanding common stock (the “**Common Stock**”) or (2) the combined voting power of the REIT's outstanding securities entitled to vote generally in the election of directors (the “**Outstanding Voting Securities**”);
- (ii) The merger or consolidation of the REIT with or into any other Person other than a Qualified Affiliate, if the directors immediately prior to the merger or consolidation cease to be the majority of the Board of Directors at anytime within 12 months of the completion of the merger or consolidation;
- (iii) Any one or a series of related sales or conveyances to any Person or Persons (including a liquidation or dissolution) other than any one or more Qualified Affiliates of all or substantially all of the assets of the REIT or the Operating Partnership; or
- (iv) Incumbent Directors cease, for any reason, to be a majority of the members of the Board of Directors, where an “**Incumbent Director**” is (1) an individual who is a member of the Board of Directors on the effective date of this Agreement or (2) any new director whose appointment by the Board of Directors or whose nomination for election by the stockholders was approved by a majority of the persons who were already Incumbent Directors at the time of such appointment, election or approval, other than any individual who assumes office initially as a result of an actual or threatened election contest with respect to the election or removal of directors or other actual or threatened solicitation of proxies or consents by or on behalf of a Person other than the Board of Directors or as a result of an agreement to avoid or settle such a contest or solicitation.

A Change in Control shall also be deemed to have occurred upon the completion of a tender offer for the REIT's securities representing more than 50% of the Outstanding Voting Securities, other than a tender offer by a Qualified Affiliate.

For purposes of this definition of Change in Control, the following definitions shall apply: (A) “**Beneficial Ownership**,” “**Beneficially Owned**” and “**Beneficially Owns**” shall have the meanings provided in Exchange Act Rule 13d-3; (B) “**Exchange Act**” shall mean the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; (C) “**Person**” shall mean any individual, entity, or group (within the meaning of Section 13(d)(3) or 14(d)(2) of the Exchange Act), including any natural person, corporation, trust,



association, company, partnership, joint venture, limited liability company, legal entity of any kind, government, or political subdivision, agency or instrumentality of a government, as well as two or more Persons acting as a partnership, limited partnership, syndicate or other group for the purpose of acquiring, holding or disposing of the REIT's securities; and (D) “**Qualified Affiliate**” shall mean (I) any directly or indirectly wholly owned subsidiary of the REIT or the Operating Partnership; (II) any employee benefit plan (or related trust) sponsored or maintained by the REIT or the Operating Partnership or by any entity controlled by the REIT or the Operating Partnership; or (III) any Person consisting in whole or in part of the Executive or one or more individuals who are then the REIT's Chief Executive Officer or any other named executive officer (as defined in Item 402 of Regulation S-K under the Securities Act of 1933) of the REIT as indicated in its most recent securities filing made before the date of the transaction.

(d) **Date of Termination.** “Date of Termination” shall mean the actual date of the Executive's termination of employment with the REIT.

(e) **Disability.** “Disability” shall mean if the Executive is unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months.

(f) **Good Reason.** “Good Reason” for termination shall mean the occurrence of one of the following events, without the Executive's prior written consent, provided such event is not corrected within 15 days following the Board of Director's receipt of written or electronic notice of such event: (i) a material diminution in the Executive's duties or responsibilities or any material demotion from the Executive's current position at the REIT, including, without limitation: (A) if the Executive is the CEO, either discontinuing his direct reporting to the Board of Directors or a committee thereof or discontinuing the direct reporting to the CEO by each of the senior executives responsible for finance, legal, acquisition and operations or (B) if the Executive is not the CEO, discontinuing the Executive reporting directly to the CEO or (C) if the Executive is the Chief Accounting Officer, discontinuing the Executive's reporting directly to the Chief Financial Officer or to the Chief Executive Officer; (ii) if the Executive is a member of the Board of Directors, the failure of the REIT or its affiliates to nominate the Executive as a Director of the REIT; (iii) a requirement that the Executive work principally from a location outside the 50 mile radius from the REIT's address, except for required travel on the REIT's business to the extent substantially consistent with the Executive's business travel obligations on the date hereof; (iv) failure to pay the Executive any compensation, benefits or to honor any indemnification agreement to which the Executive is entitled within 30 days of the date due; or (v) the occurrence of any of the following events or conditions in the year immediately following a Change in Control: (A) a reduction in the Executive's annual base salary or annual bonus opportunity as in effect immediately prior to the Change in Control; (B) the failure of the REIT to obtain an agreement, reasonably satisfactory to the Executive, from any successor or assign of the REIT to assume and agree to adopt this Agreement for a period of at least two years from the Change in Control.

(g) **Restricted Period.** The “Restricted Period” shall mean, the Executive's employment with the REIT, which period may be extended for an additional period of 12 months if the Executive is entitled to, and receives, the Cash Severance specified under Section 3(b)(2) hereof.

(h) **Retirement.** As used in this Agreement, “Retirement” shall mean a retirement by the Executive if the Executive has been designated as an eligible retiree by the Board of Directors, in the Board's sole discretion.

### 3. Effect of Termination

(a) **Any Termination.** If the Executive's employment with the REIT terminates for any reason, the Executive shall be entitled to any Accrued Salary. The Executive shall have no rights or claims against the DiamondRock Group except to receive the payments and benefits described in this Section 3. The REIT shall have no further obligations to Executive except as otherwise expressly provided under this Agreement, provided any such termination shall not adversely affect or alter Executive's rights under any employee benefit plan of the REIT in which Executive, at the Date of Termination, has a vested interest, unless otherwise provided in such employee benefit plan or any agreement or other instrument attendant thereto.

None of the benefits described in this Section 3 (other than Accrued Salary) will be payable unless the Executive has signed a general release which has become irrevocable, satisfactory to the REIT in the reasonable exercise of its discretion, releasing the DiamondRock Group, its affiliates including the REIT, and their officers, directors and employees, from any and all claims or potential claims arising from or related to the Executive's employment or termination of employment. In addition, the benefits described in this Section 3 (other than Accrued Salary) are conditioned upon the Executive's ongoing compliance with his/her restrictions, covenants and promises under Sections 4, 5, 6 and 7 below (as applicable).

(b) **Termination by the REIT without Cause or by Executive for Good Reason.** If the REIT terminates the Executive's employment without Cause, or the Executive terminates his employment for Good Reason so as to constitute, in either case, a separation from service for purposes of Code Section 409A, then in addition to the benefits under Section 3(a) above, the Executive shall be entitled to receive the following:

- (i) a pro-rata bonus for the fiscal year determined through the Date of Termination and calculated based on the target bonus for such fiscal year to be paid within 90 days after the Date of Termination;
- (ii) an amount equal to (A) two times (B) the sum of (I) the Executive's base salary in effect immediately prior to the Date of Termination, and (II) the Executive's target annual bonus (collectively, the "**Cash Severance**") to be paid within 90 days after the date of Termination;
- (iii) continued payment by the REIT for health insurance coverage for the Executive and the Executive's spouse and dependents for 18 months, consistent with COBRA following the Date of Termination to the same extent that the REIT paid for such coverage immediately prior to the termination of the Executive's employment and subject to the eligibility requirements and other terms and conditions of such insurance coverage, provided that if any such insurance coverage shall become unavailable and/or the REIT's insurer refuses to continue coverage during the 18 month period, the REIT thereafter shall be obliged only to pay monthly to the Executive an amount which, after reduction for applicable income and employment taxes, is equal to the monthly COBRA premium for such insurance for the remainder of such severance period.
- (iv) vesting as of the Date of Termination of 100% of all unvested time-based restricted stock awards, to the extent permitted by law. The treatment of equity compensation awards that are not time based vesting (such as restricted stock which vests based on one or more performance metrics) granted after the effective date of this agreement will be specified in the individual grant agreements and/or the applicable plans covering such

awards.

(c) **Termination In the Event of Death or Disability.** If the Executive's employment terminates because of the Executive's death or Disability, then in addition to the benefits under Section 3(a) above, the Executive (or his estate or other legal representatives, as the case may be) shall be entitled to receive:

- (i) a pro-rata bonus, payable within 90 days after the Date of Termination, for the fiscal year determined through the Date of Termination and calculated based on the target bonus for such fiscal year;
- (ii) continued payment by the REIT for health insurance coverage for the Executive and the Executive's spouse and dependents for 18 months, consistent with COBRA, following the Date of Termination to the same extent that the REIT paid for such coverage immediately prior to the termination of the Executive's employment and subject to the eligibility requirements and other terms and conditions of such insurance coverage, provided that if any such insurance coverage shall become unavailable and/or the REIT's insurer refuses to continue coverage during the 18 month period, the REIT thereafter shall be obliged only to pay monthly to the Executive an amount which, after reduction for applicable income and employment taxes, is equal to the monthly COBRA premium for such insurance for the remainder of such severance period.
- (iii) vesting as of the Date of Termination of 100% of all unvested time-based restricted stock awards, to the extent permitted by law. The treatment of equity compensation awards that are not time based vesting (such as restricted stock which vests based on one or more performance metrics) granted after the effective date of this agreement will be specified in the individual grant agreements and/or the applicable plans covering such awards.

(d) **Termination In the Event of Retirement.** If the Executive's employment terminates because of his Retirement, then in addition to the benefits under Section 3(a) above, the Executive shall be entitled to receive the following:

- (i) a pro-rata bonus, payable within 90 days after the date of termination, for the fiscal year determined through the Date of Termination and calculated based on the target bonus for such fiscal year; and
- (ii) notwithstanding the Retirement by the Executive, all unvested time-based restricted stock awards shall continue to vest at the times and on the terms as set forth in the relevant restricted stock award agreements as if the Executive remained continuously employed by the REIT from the Date of Termination through each such vesting date. The treatment of non-time-based equity compensation awards (such as restricted stock which vests based on one or more performance metrics) granted after the effective date of this agreement will be specified in individual grant agreements and/or the applicable plans covering such awards.

(e) In the event the Executive's termination of employment occurs in connection with or following a Change in Control, and in the event that any payment made pursuant to Section 3 hereof or any insurance benefits, accelerated vesting, pro-rated bonus or other benefit payable to the Executive under this Agreement or otherwise (the "**Severance Payments**"), are subject to the excise tax imposed by

Section 4999 (as it may be amended or replaced) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “**Excise Tax**”); then

- (i) If the reduction of the Severance Payments to the maximum amount that could be paid to the Executive without giving rise to the Excise Tax (the “**Safe Harbor Cap**”) would provide the Executive with a greater after tax benefit than if such amounts were not reduced, then the amounts payable to the Executive under this Agreement shall be reduced (but not below zero) to the Safe Harbor Cap. The reduction of the amounts payable hereunder, if applicable, shall be made by reducing first the payments of cash originating under Section 3 (a)-3(d) hereof, and then by reducing other payments to the extent permitted by any applicable plan and/or agreement.
- (ii) If the reduction for the Severance Payments to the Safe Harbor Cap would not result in a greater after tax result to the Executive, no amounts payable under this agreement shall be reduced pursuant to this provision.
- (iii) The determination of whether the Excise Tax is payable and the amount thereof shall be made in writing in good faith by a nationally recognized independent certified public accounting firm selected by the REIT and approved by the Executive, such approval not to be unreasonably withheld (the “**Accounting Firm**”). For purposes of making the calculations required by this Section 3(e), to the extent not otherwise specified herein, reasonable assumptions and approximations may be made with respect to applicable taxes and reasonable, good faith interpretations of the Code may be relied upon. The REIT and the Executive shall furnish such information and documents as may be reasonably requested in connection with the performance of the calculations under this Section 3(e). The REIT shall bear all costs incurred in connection with the performance of the calculations contemplated by this Section 3(e).

#### 4. **Non-Disparagement**

The Executive agrees that he/she will not, whether during or after the Executive's employment with the REIT, make any statement, orally or in writing, regardless of whether such statement is truthful, nor take any action, that (a) in any way could disparage the DiamondRock Group or any officers, executives, directors, partners, managers, members, principals, employees, representatives, or agents of the DiamondRock Group, or which foreseeably could or reasonably could be expected to harm the reputation or goodwill of any of those persons or entities, or (b) in any way, directly or indirectly, could knowingly cause, encourage or condone the making of such statements or the taking of such actions by anyone else.

#### 5. **Non-Competition**

(a) **Non-Competition.** Subject to Section 5(b) hereof, the Executive agrees that during the Restricted Period the Executive shall not, without the prior express written consent of the REIT, directly or indirectly, anywhere in the United States, own an interest in, join, operate, control or participate in, or be connected as an owner, officer, executive, employee, partner, member, manager, shareholder, or principal of or with, any lodging-oriented real estate investment company. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Executive may own up to one percent (1%) of the outstanding stock of a real estate investment company. The restrictions of this Section 5(a) shall not apply if the Executive's

employment with the REIT is terminated without cause by the Company or the Executive effective during the 12 month period immediately following a Change in Control.

(b) **Board's Discretion.** Notwithstanding anything contained herein, the Board of Directors retains the right, in its sole discretion, to shorten or eliminate the post-employment Restricted Period for any Executive.

6. **Non-Solicitation of Employees.** The Executive agrees that while he/she is employed as an employee of the REIT and for a period of 12 months after the termination of the Employee's employment with the REIT for whatever reason, the Employee shall not, without the express written consent of the REIT, hire, solicit, recruit, induce or procure (or assist or encourage any other person or entity to hire, solicit, recruit, induce or procure), directly or indirectly or on behalf of himself or any other person or entity, any officer, executive, director, partner, principal, member, or non-clerical employee of the DiamondRock Group or any person who was an officer, executive, director, partner, principal, member, or non-clerical employee of the DiamondRock Group at any time during the final year of the Executive's employment with the REIT, to work for the Executive or any person or entity with which the Executive is or intends to be affiliated or otherwise directly or indirectly encourage any such person to terminate his or her employment or other relationship with the DiamondRock Group without the prior express written consent of the REIT. Notwithstanding anything contained herein, the foregoing shall not restrain the Executive from hiring, soliciting, recruiting, inducing or procuring any person to work for the Executive or any person or entity with which the Executive is or intends to be affiliated if such person was either terminated by the REIT or such person resigned for Good Reason. In addition, the Board of Directors retains the right, in its sole discretion, to release any Executive from its obligations under this Section.

7. **Injunctive Relief.** The Executive understands that the restrictions contained in Section 4, 5 and 6 of this Agreement are intended to protect the REIT's interests in its proprietary information, goodwill, and its employee and investor relationships, and agrees that such restrictions (and the scope and duration thereof) are necessary, reasonable and appropriate for this purpose. The Executive acknowledges and agrees that it would be difficult to measure any damages caused to the REIT which might result from any breach by the Executive of his promises and obligations under Sections 4, 5 and/or 6, that the REIT would be irreparably harmed by such breach, and that, in any event, money damages would be an inadequate remedy for any such breach. Therefore, the Executive agrees and consents that the REIT shall be entitled to an injunction or other appropriate equitable relief (in addition to all other remedies it may have for damages or otherwise) to restrain any such breach or threatened breach without showing or proving any actual damage to the REIT; and the REIT shall be entitled to an award of its attorneys fees and costs incurred in enforcing the Executive's obligations under Sections 4, 5 and/or 6.

#### 8. **Miscellaneous**

(a) **409A.** Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, if the Executive is a "key employee" (as defined in Section 416(i) of the Code without regard to paragraph (5) thereof) and any of the REIT's stock is publicly traded on an established securities market or otherwise, to the extent necessary to avoid any penalties under Section 409A of the Code, any payment hereunder may not be made before the date that is six months after the date of separation from service.

(b) **Tax Withholding.** All payments made by the REIT under this Agreement shall be net of any tax or other amounts required to be withheld by the REIT under applicable law.

(c) **No Mitigation.** The REIT agrees that, if the Executive's employment by the REIT

is terminated during the term of this Agreement, the Executive is not required to seek other employment or to attempt in any way to reduce any amounts payable to the Executive by the REIT pursuant to Section 3 hereof. Further, the amount of any payment provided for in this Agreement shall not be reduced by any compensation earned by the Executive as the result of employment by another employer, by retirement benefits, by offset against any amount claimed to be owed by the Executive to the REIT or otherwise.

(d) **No Offset.** The REIT's obligation to make the payments provided for in this Agreement and otherwise perform its obligations hereunder shall not be affected by any circumstances, including, without limitation, any set-off, counterclaim, recoupment, defense or other right which the REIT, the Operating Partnership or any of their subsidiaries may have against the Executive or others unless such set-off, counterclaim, recoupment, defense, or other right arises from the Executive engaging in conduct which constitutes a material breach of a fiduciary duty or duty of loyalty, including without limitation, misappropriation of funds or property of the Operating Partnership and their subsidiaries.

(e) **Litigation and Regulatory Cooperation.** During and after Executive's employment, Executive shall reasonably cooperate with the REIT in the defense or prosecution of any claims or actions now in existence or which may be brought in the future against or on behalf of the REIT which relate to events or occurrences that transpired while Executive was employed by the REIT; provided, however, that such cooperation shall not materially and adversely affect Executive or expose Executive to an increased probability of civil or criminal litigation. Executive's cooperation in connection with such claims or actions shall include, but not be limited to, being available to meet with counsel to prepare for discovery or trial and to act as a witness on behalf of the REIT at mutually convenient times. During and after Executive's employment, Executive also shall cooperate fully with the REIT in connection with any investigation or review of any federal, state or local regulatory authority as any such investigation or review relates to events or occurrences that transpired while Executive was employed by the REIT. The REIT shall also provide Executive with compensation on an hourly basis (to be derived from the sum of his Base Salary and average annual incentive compensation) for requested litigation and regulatory cooperation that occurs after his termination of employment, and reimburse Executive for all costs and expenses incurred in connection with his performance under this Section 8(e), including, but not limited to, reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.

(f) **Notices.** All notices required or permitted under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed effective (i) upon personal delivery, (ii) upon deposit with the United States Postal Service, by registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, or (iii) in the case of facsimile transmission or delivery by nationally recognized overnight delivery service, when received, addressed as follows:

- (i) If to the REIT, to:  
DiamondRock Hospitality Company  
6903 Rockledge Drive, Suite 800; Bethesda, MD 20817

Facsimile: (240) 744-1199

Attn: 1) Lead Director; 2) Chairman of the Board and 3) Chairman of the Compensation Committee

- (ii) If to the Executive, to:  
William J. Tennis

8113 River Falls Drive, Potomac, Maryland 20854

or to such other address or addresses as either party shall designate to the other in writing from time to time by like notice.

(g) **Pronouns.** Whenever the context may require, any pronouns used in this Agreement shall include the corresponding masculine, feminine or neuter forms, and the singular forms of nouns and pronouns shall include the plural, and vice versa.

(h) **Entire Agreement.** This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings, whether written or oral, relating to the subject matter of this Agreement, including without limitation the [employment agreement dated as of June 4, 2004][letter agreement dated as of June 30, 2004]. For the avoidance of doubt, such [employment][letter] agreement is hereby terminated and the Executive hereby waives any rights that he may have under such agreement.

(i) **Amendment.** This Agreement may be amended or modified only by a written instrument executed by both the REIT and the Executive.

(j) **Governing Law and Forum.** This Agreement shall be construed, interpreted and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Maryland, without regard to its conflicts of laws principles, by a court of competent jurisdiction located within the State of Maryland.

(k) **Successors and Assigns.** This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of both parties and their respective successors and assigns, including any entity with which or into which the REIT may be merged or which may succeed to its assets or business or any entity to which the REIT may assign its rights and obligations under this Agreement; provided, however, that the obligations of the Executive are personal and shall not be assigned or delegated by him.

(l) **Waiver.** No delays or omission by the REIT or the Executive in exercising any right under this Agreement shall operate as a waiver of that or any other right. A waiver or consent given by the REIT or the Executive on any one occasion shall be effective only in that instance and shall not be construed as a bar or waiver of any right on any other occasion.

(m) **Captions.** The captions appearing in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only and in no way define, limit or affect the scope or substance of any section of this Agreement.

(n) **Severability.** In case any provision of this Agreement shall be held by a court or arbitrator with jurisdiction over the parties to this Agreement to be invalid, illegal or otherwise unenforceable, such provision shall be restated to reflect as nearly as possible the original intentions of the parties in accordance with applicable law, and the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining provisions shall in no way be affected or impaired thereby. In the event that any portion or provision of this Agreement (including, without limitation, any portion or provision of Sections 4, 5, and/or 6) is determined by a court or arbitrator of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, illegal or otherwise unenforceable by reason of excessive scope as to geographic, temporal or functional coverage, such provision will be reformed and deemed to extend only over the maximum geographic, temporal and functional scope as to which it may be enforceable and shall be enforced by said court or arbitrator accordingly.

(o) **Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts, each

of which shall be deemed an original but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the day and year first above written.

DIAMONDROCK HOSPITALITY COMPANY

By:

/s/ Mark W. Brugger  
Mark W. Brugger

EXECUTIVE

/s/ William J. Tennis  
William J. Tennis



**Certification of Chief Executive Officer**  
**Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) and Rule 15d-14(a)**

I, Mark W. Brugger, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of DiamondRock Hospitality Company;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: April 30, 2012

/s/ Mark W. Brugger

Mark W. Brugger

Chief Executive Officer

(Principal Executive Officer)

**Certification of Chief Financial Officer**  
**Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) and Rule 15d-14(a)**

I, Sean M. Mahoney, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of DiamondRock Hospitality Company;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: April 30, 2012

/s/ Sean M. Mahoney

Sean M. Mahoney

Executive Vice President and

Chief Financial Officer

(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

**Certification**  
**Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350**

The undersigned officers, who are the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer of DiamondRock Hospitality Company (the “Company”), each hereby certifies to the best of his knowledge, that the Company’s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q (the “Report”) to which this certification is attached, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof, fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d), as applicable, of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and that the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ Mark W. Brugger

Mark W. Brugger

Chief Executive Officer

April 30, 2012

/s/ Sean M. Mahoney

Sean M. Mahoney

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

April 30, 2012