

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

**SCHEDULE 14A**

**Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of  
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. )**

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement  
 **Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))**  
 Definitive Proxy Statement  
 Definitive Additional Materials  
 Soliciting Material under §240.14a-12

**APPLIED OPTOELECTRONICS, INC.**

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- No fee required.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.
- (1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies: \_\_\_\_\_
- (2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies: \_\_\_\_\_
- (3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined): \_\_\_\_\_
- (4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction: \_\_\_\_\_
- (5) Total fee paid: \_\_\_\_\_
- Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.
- Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.
- (1) Amount Previously Paid: \_\_\_\_\_
- (2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.: \_\_\_\_\_
- (3) Filing Party: \_\_\_\_\_
- (4) Date Filed: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\* Exercise Your *Right* to Vote \*\*\***  
**Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the  
Stockholder Meeting to Be Held on June 08, 2018**

**APPLIED OPTOELECTRONICS, INC.**



**APPLIED OPTOELECTRONICS, INC.**

APPLIED OPTOELECTRONICS, INC.  
ATTN: LEGAL DEPARTMENT  
13139 JESS PIRTLE BLVD.  
SUGAR LAND, TX 77478

**Meeting Information**

**Meeting Type:** Annual Meeting

**For holders as of:** April 13, 2018

**Date:** June 08, 2018      **Time:** 9:30 A

**Location:** 13139 Jess Pirtle Blvd  
Sugar Land, TX 77478

You are receiving this communication because you own or hold shares in the above named company.

This is not a ballot. You cannot use this communication to exercise these shares. This communication provides an overview of the more complete proxy materials available to you on the Internet. You may access these materials online at [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com) or request a paper copy (see reverse side).

We encourage you to access and review all of the information contained in the proxy materials.

**See the reverse side of this notice for more information on proxy materials and voting instructions.**

— Before You Vote —  
How to Access the Proxy Materials

**Proxy Materials Available to VIEW or RECEIVE:**

1. Notice & Proxy Statement    2. Annual Report

**How to View Online:**

Have the information that is printed in the box marked by the arrow → XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX (located on the following page) and visit: [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com).

**How to Request and Receive a PAPER or E-MAIL Copy:**

If you want to receive a paper or e-mail copy of these documents, you must request one. There is NO requesting a copy. Please choose one of the following methods to make your request:

- 1) BY INTERNET: [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com)
- 2) BY TELEPHONE: 1-800-579-1639
- 3) BY E-MAIL\*: [sendmaterial@proxyvote.com](mailto:sendmaterial@proxyvote.com)

\* If requesting materials by e-mail, please send a blank e-mail with the information that is printed in the box marked by the arrow → XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX (located on the following page) in the subject line.

Requests, instructions and other inquiries sent to this e-mail address will NOT be forwarded to your investment advisor. Please make the request as instructed above on or before May 25, 2018 to facilitate timely delivery.

— How To Vote —

Please Choose One of the Following Voting Methods

**Vote In Person:** Many stockholder meetings have attendance requirements including, but not limited to, the purchase of an attendance ticket issued by the entity holding the meeting. Please check the meeting materials for attendance requirements for meeting attendance. At the meeting, you will need to request a ballot to vote these shares.

**Vote By Internet:** To vote now by Internet, go to [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com). Have the information that is printed in the box marked by the arrow → XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX available and follow the instructions.

**Vote By Mail:** You can vote by mail by requesting a paper copy of the materials, which will include a proxy card.

### Voting items

The Board of Directors recommends you vote FOR each nominee:

1. Class II Directors for Election:

Nominees

01 William H. Yeh                      02 Alex Ignatiev

The Board of Directors recommends you vote FOR proposals 2 and 3.

2. To approve Grant Thornton as independent registered public accounting firm for the year ending December 31, 2018.
  
3. To approve, on an advisory basis, our executive compensation, or the say-on-pay vote.

The Board of Directors recommends you vote for "One Year".

4. To approve, on an advisory basis, the frequency of future advisory votes on our executive compensation, or the say-on-frequency vote.

NOTE: In their discretion, the proxies are authorized to vote upon such other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment or postponement of the meeting.

0000376215\_4 R.I.O.I.17

