FORM 4

### **UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

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| hours per response:      | 0.5       |

### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| Name and Address of Reporting Person*                         | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol BARRETT BUSINESS SERVICES INC   BBSI | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)   |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| HICKS JAMES B   | Drikker r begittess sekvices itte [ bbsi ]                                       | X Director 10% Owner  |  |  |  |  |  |
| (Last) (First) (Middle)<br>8100 NE PARKWAY DRIVE<br>SUITE 200 | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/10/2021                      | Officer (give title Other (specify below)   |  |  |  |  |  |
| (Street) VANCOUVER WA 98662                                   | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                         | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)  X Form filed by One Reporting Person  Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |  |  |  |  |  |
| (City) (State) (Zip)  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |

### Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | Code (II | 4. Securities Acquired ( Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) |        |               | ) or Disposed                    | Securities<br>Beneficially Owned | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct (D)<br>or Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--|---|----------|---|--------|---------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|---|
|                                 |  |   | Code     | v   | Amount | (A) or<br>(D) | Price                            | (Instr. 3 and 4)                 |   | (instr. 4)  |
| Common Stock                    | 05/10/2021                                 |   | S        |   | 1,361  | D             | <b>\$</b> 79.1334 <sup>(1)</sup> | 18,873.135                       | D   |   |
| Common Stock                    |  |   |          |   |        |               |                                  | 1,050                            | I   | By<br>Spouse  |

# Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security (Instr. 3) | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | Transaction<br>Code (Instr.<br>8) |   | Derivative |     | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |                    | 7. Title and Amount of<br>Securities Underlying<br>Derivative Security (Instr.<br>3 and 4) |                                  | Derivative | derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported | Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|--|---|--|---|-----------------------------------|---|------------|-----|--|--------------------|--|----------------------------------|------------|--|----------------------------------|--|
|  |   |  |   | Code                              | v | (A)        | (D) | Date<br>Exercisable  | Expiration<br>Date | Title  | Amount or<br>Number of<br>Shares |            | Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 4)   |                                  |  |

## Explanation of Responses:

#### Remarks:

/s/ Anthony Harris, as attorney-infact 05/12/2021

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

- $^{\star}$  If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.

<sup>1.</sup> This transaction was executed in multiple trades at prices ranging from \$79.005 to \$79.20. The price reported above reflects the weighted average price. The reporting person hereby undertakes to provide upon request to the SEC staff, the issuer or a security holder of the issuer full information regarding the number of shares and prices at which the transaction was effected.