FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

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

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): March 1, 2018

A. H. BELO CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Commission file number: 1-33741

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

38-3765318 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

P. O. Box 224866, Dallas, Texas 75222-4866 (Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

(214) 977-8222 (Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

| | ate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (0.12b-2 of this chapter). | | | |
|------|---|--|--|--|
| Emer | rging growth company 🗆 | | | |
| | f an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant os Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. | | | |
| Chec | the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions: | | | |
| | Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425) | | | |
| | Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12) | | | |
| | Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b)) | | | |
| | Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c)) | | | |

Item 5.02. Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

(e) On March 1, 2018, the Board of Directors of A. H. Belo Corporation (the "Company") approved the promotion of Grant S. Moise, the Company's current Executive Vice President/General Manager, *The Dallas Morning News* and named executive Officer, to Executive Vice President / Publisher and President, *The Dallas Morning News* effective March 5, 2018. A copy of the announcement press release is furnished with this report as Exhibit 99.1.

On March 1, 2018, the Compensation Committee of the Company approved changes to the vesting and payout schedule of time-based, long-term cash incentive ("LTCI") compensation beginning with 2018 grants for its named executive officers: James M. Moroney, Grant S. Moise, Katy Murray, Christine E. Larkin and Michael J. O'Hara. Beginning with 2018 grants, the executive officers' LTCI payments will vest over a three-year period instead of over a two-year period, and the first tranche representing 40% of the grant will vest three (3) trading days after the earnings release for each of the next two fiscal years thereafter. Each tranche of these LTCI's will be paid within ten (10) business days after vesting. LTCI payments are made outside of the Company's 2017 Incentive Compensation Plan. LTCI payments will continue to represent 67% of the named executive officers' (other than Mr. Moroney's which is 50%) total long-term incentive compensation, and time-based restricted stock units ("TBRSUS") under the Company's 2017 Incentive Compensation Plan ("ICP") will continue to represent 33% of such long-term incentive compensation.

Mr. Moroney will continue to be granted 50% of his total long-term incentive compensation amount in the form of TBRSUs under the ICP and 50% in the form of time-based cash outside of the ICP. The TBRSU equity compensation and LTCI compensation structure is intended to accomplish several objectives, including: (1) managing share usage and dilution to acceptable levels; (2) aligning the interests of executives with those of shareholders; (3) providing retention to key executives over a multi-year period; (4) enhancing the Company's ability to recruit executives who can further diversify sources of revenue and grow EBITDA; and (5) ensuring that the total expense incurred is consistent with the value delivered to executives. For 2018, the Compensation Committee approved the following amounts of LTCI compensation to its named executive officers:

| Name | 2018 LTCI |
|----------------------|--------------|
| James M. Moroney III | \$487,500 |
| Katy Murray | \$150,000 |
| Grant S. Moise | \$200,000 |
| Christine E. Larkin | \$100,000 |
| Michael J. O'Hara | \$75,000 |

The TBRSUs granted to each of the Company's named executive officers on March 1, 2018 are as follows:

| Name | 2018 TBRSUs | \$ Value on Date of Grant |
|----------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| James M. Moroney III | 94,660 | \$487,000 |
| Katy Murray | 14,563 | \$75,000 |
| Grant S. Moise | 19,417 | \$100,000 |
| Christine E. Larkin | 9,708 | \$50,000 |
| Michael J. O'Hara | 7.281 | \$37.500 |

The terms and conditions of the vesting of the TBRSU awards are substantially the same as prior year grants. These TBRSUs vest at the rate of 40% at the end of year one, and 30% at the end of years two and three. The Compensation Committee also approved a change to the criteria for accelerated vesting of long-term incentive awards upon retirement. Long-term incentive awards will continue to provide for accelerated vesting at age 55, however the number of required years of service has been increased from three (3) years to seven (7) years of service prior to becoming eligible for accelerated vesting upon retirement. Participants who had already age- and service-vested with three-years of service prior to the effective date of this change have been grandfathered.

In connection with his promotion, the Compensation Committee increased Mr. Moise's annual base salary from \$475,000 to \$500,000. The Compensation Committee determined not to make any other changes in base salaries of its named executive officers for 2018. The following are the 2018 base salaries for each of our named executive officers:

| Name | 2018 Base Salary |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| James M. Moroney III | \$600,000 |
| Grant S. Moise | \$500,000 |
| Katy Murray | \$325,000 |
| Christine E. Larkin | \$300,000 |
| Michael J. O'Hara | \$300,000 |

In addition, the Company's executive officers will be eligible to receive cash incentive bonuses under the ICP, expressed as a percentage of base salary: Jim Moroney – 85%; Katy Murray – 40%; Christine Larkin – 35% and Michael O'Hara – 35%. In connection with his promotion, Mr. Moise's cash incentive bonus percentage was increased from 70% to 80%. The percentages for the other named executive officers remained at 2017 levels. One-half of the cash incentive bonus opportunity will be based upon financial performance metrics, and one-half on individual objectives. For 2018, the financial performance metrics will be weighted as follows: (i) 40% against publishing revenue and EBITDA, split 50% on revenue and 50% on EBITDA; and (iii) 20% against consolidated EBITDA. Threshold, target and maximum performance and payout ranges for the marketing services and other revenue component is 85%, 100% and 115%, respectively, for performance and 10%, 100% and 200%, respectively, for payout. Threshold, target and maximum performance and payout ranges for the publishing revenue component is 95%, 100% and 105%, respectively, for performance and 10%, 100% and 200%, respectively, for payout. Threshold, target and maximum performance and payout ranges for the EBITDA components are 85%, 100% and 115%, respectively, for performance and 10%, 100% and 200%, respectively, for payout. Individual objectives are comprised of individual performance metrics, based on a point system allocated to each objective which includes threshold, target and maximum performance metrics, based on a point system allocated to each objective which includes threshold, target and maximum performance metrics, based on a point system allocated to each objective which includes threshold, target and maximum performance metrics, based on a point system allocated to each objective which includes threshold, target and maximum performance metrics, based on a point system allocated to each objective which includes threshold, target and maximum performance metrics, based

In connection with his Employment Agreement, as amended, Mr. Timothy Storer, President of the Company's DMV Portfolio Companies (now known as Belo + Company) was eligible to receive time-based restricted stock units in 2018 with an annual at-target value of \$500,000 per grant, provided that Mr. Storer remained employed by the Company, and the DMV Portfolio Companies' prior year consolidated adjusted EBITDA was at least 95% of target. Mr. Storer achieved 100% of target 2017 consolidated adjusted EBITDA, and as a result, on March 1, 2018, was granted 97,087 TBRSUs, which will vest over a period of three years (40/30/30) and payout 60% in shares of Series A Common Stock and 40% in cash. In addition, pursuant to the terms of his Employment Agreement, Mr. Storer's 2018 base salary will increase 2.5% from \$450,000 to \$461,250. Mr. Storer's Employment Agreement dated March 2, 2017 was previously filed with the Securities Exchange Commission on Form 8-K filed September 8, 2017.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

99.1 Press Release issued by A. H. Belo Corporation on March 1, 2018

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.

Date: March 2, 2018 A. H. BELO CORPORATION

By: /s/ Christine E. Larkin

Christine E. Larkin Senior Vice President/General Counsel &

A. H. Belo Corporation

A. H. Belo Corporation Appoints New Leadership

Grant S. Moise Promoted to Publisher and President of The Dallas Morning News; Jim Moroney Remains Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer of A.

DALLAS--Mar. 1, 2018-- A. H. Belo Corporation (NYSE: AHC) announced today the promotion of Grant S. Moise as Executive Vice President, Publisher and President of *The Dallas Morning News*. He will continue to report to Jim Moroney, who will continue to serve as Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer of A. H. Belo Corporation.

In February of 2017, Moise was named Executive Vice President of A. H. Belo and General Manager of *The Dallas Morning News*. Over the last year, Moise has been instrumental in leading the growth of digital subscriptions and optimizing the organizational design of the company into a customer-centric model.

"Grant is a proven leader in our industry – one that has changed dramatically over the last two decades," said Moroney. "His contributions to *The Dallas Morning News*, A. H. Belo and its subsidiaries have been transformational, and I am confident that as the Publisher and President of *The Dallas Morning News*, he will continue to grow our business and promote change as needed. I can say with confidence that there is no one better in the business for this job than Grant."

During his tenure with A. H. Belo, Moise has managed mergers and acquisitions and overseen the integration of new companies into the company's marketing solutions ecosystem – including *The Dallas Morning News* core assets, as well as six new businesses that were built or acquired during the past six years. Moise has also had responsibility for the success of products and companies such as *briefing*, *al día*, as well as new ventures like Speakeasy and DMV Digital Holdings.

"At The Dallas Morning News, we have found new, different and innovative ways to engage with a very large, but very segmented audience," added Moise. "While we continue to find new ways to interact with our current and potential subscribers, we will remain committed to providing them a very high level of journalistic excellence and customer service. At the same time, we have been investing in the marketing services space in order to bring ROI-based marketing solutions to our business customers. I am honored to become the Publisher and President of such a storied news organization that has such great relationships with our subscribers and marketing partners, and I look forward to leading it for years to come."

Moise is on the boards of the Neeley School of Business MBA Advisory Board at Texas Christian University, and the Providence Christian School of Texas. He is a graduate of the William Allen White School of Journalism at the University of Kansas and has a Master of Business Administration from Texas Christian University.

About A. H. Belo Corporation

A. H. Belo Corporation is a leading local news and information publishing company with commercial printing, distribution and direct mail capabilities, as well as expertise in emerging media and digital marketing. With a continued focus on extending the Company's media platform, A. H. Belo Corporation delivers news and information in innovative ways to a broad spectrum of audiences with diverse interests and lifestyles. For additional information, visit www.ahbelo.com or email invest@ahbelo.com.

About The Dallas Morning News

Established in 1885, *The Dallas Morning News* is Texas' leading newspaper and the flagship newspaper subsidiary of A. H. Belo Corporation. It has received nine Pulitzer Prizes since 1986, as well as numerous other industry awards recognizing the quality of its investigative and feature journalism, design and photojournalism. Its portfolio of print and digital products reaches an average daily audience of more than 1.1 million people and includes online news and information sites; iPhone, Android and iPad apps; ald fa (www.aldiadallas.com), the leading Spanish-language publication in North Texas; and *briefing*, the free, home-delivered quick- read. In addition, CrowdSource was created as an independent business division to assist event organizers and producers with its operational, marketing and promotional needs. Belo + Company (www.beloandco.com) is a digital marketing services agency that serves marketers across the United States. Belo + Company is comprised of Speakeasy, Distribion, Vertical Nerve and MarketingFX, companies that were either bought or built by A. H. Belo. Speakeasy is a content marketing and social media agency that helps brands tell their stories and manage their online reputations. Distribion, Vertical Nerve and MarketingFX specialize in local marketing automation, search engine marketing, direct mail and promotional products. Belo Media Group (www.belomediagroup.com), the marketing solutions group of The Dallas Morning News Inc., provides advertising and marketing solutions to customers of *The News*. For more information about the publication and its entities, visit www.dallasnews.com.

A. H. Belo Corporation Katy Murray SVP/CFO invest@ahbelo.com