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Northwest Bancshares, Inc. Form 8-K May 14, 2018

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

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): May 14, 2018

Northwest Bancshares, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Maryland 001-34582 27-0950358 (State or other jurisdiction (Commission File No.) (I.R.S. Employer of incorporation) Identification No.)

100 Liberty Street

Warren, Pennsylvania

(Address of principal executive office) (Zip code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (814) 726-2140

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4 (c))

Indicate by a 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 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter.

Emerging growth company o

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

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

On May 14, 2018 the Board of Directors of Northwest Bancshares, Inc. granted stock options and restricted stock to all directors and named executive officers. The form of grant agreements are filed as exhibits to this Current Report on form 8-K.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

- (a) Not applicable
- (b) Not applicable
- (c) Not applicable
- (d) Exhibits

Exhibit No. Description

10.1 Form of Non-Qualified Stock Option Award Agreement

10.2 Form of Incentive Stock Option Award Agreement

10.3 Form of Restricted Stock Award Agreement

SIGNATURES

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, hereunto duly authorized.

NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC.

DATE: May 14, 2018 By:/s/ William W. Harvey, Jr.
William W. Harvey, Jr.
Chief Financial Officer