### UNITED STATES 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):

February 9, 2011

BARRETT BUSINESS SERVICES, INC. (Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

Maryland (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

0-21886 (SEC File Number)

### 52-0812977

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

8100 N.E. Parkway Drive, Suite 200 Vancouver, Washington (Address of principal executive offices)

98662 (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code:

(360) 828-0700

Check 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 2.02. Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On February 9, 2011, Barrett Business Services, Inc. (the "Company"), issued a news release announcing its financial results for the fourth quarter and fiscal year ended December 31, 2010, and limited financial guidance for the first quarter ending March 31, 2011. A copy of the news release is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 to this report and incorporated by reference.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits: The following exhibit is furnished with this Form 8-K:

99.1 News Release dated February 9, 2011.

### 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 thereunto duly authorized.

BARRETT BUSINESS SERVICES, INC.

Dated: February 9, 2011

By: /s/ James D. Miller

James D. Miller Vice President-Finance, Treasurer and Secretary

# **NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

Contact: Michael L. Elich Interim President and Chief Executive Officer

Telephone: (360) 828-0700

## BBSI ANNOUNCES FOURTH QUARTER 2010 OPERATING RESULTS, FINANCIAL GUIDANCE FOR 1Q11 AND CONFERENCE CALL

VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON, February 9, 2011 – Barrett Business Services, Inc. (Nasdaq: BBSI) reported today net income of \$3.1 million for the fourth quarter ended December 31, 2010 compared to net income of \$2.2 million for the fourth quarter of 2009. Diluted earnings per share for the 2010 fourth quarter were \$.31, as compared to diluted earnings per share of \$.21 for the same quarter a year ago.

Net revenues for the fourth quarter ended December 31, 2010 totaled \$73.6 million, an increase of approximately \$11.0 million or 17.4% over the \$62.6 million for the same quarter in 2009.

(in thousands, except per share amounts) Results of Operations		(Unau) Fourth Qua Decem 2010	Énded		(Unaudited) Year Ended December 31, 2010 2009				
Revenues:			· -						
Staffing services	\$	32,747	\$	30,931	\$	125,738	\$	116,155	
Professional employer service fees	Ψ	40,808	Ψ	31,698	Ψ	147,385	Ψ	120,305	
Total revenues	_	73,555		62,629		273,123		236,460	
Cost of revenues:	-	10,000	_	02,020		210,120	-	200,100	
Direct payroll costs		24,920		23,388		95,439		87,679	
Payroll taxes and benefits		24,670		19,617		96,660		82,077	
Workers' compensation		10,353		7,636		36,234		41,109	
Total cost of revenues		59,943		50,641		228,333		210,865	
Gross margin		13,612		11,988		44,790		25,595	
Selling, general and administrative expenses		9,642		8,689		35,429		33,481	
Depreciation and amortization		344		423		1,395		1,641	
Income (loss) from operations		3,626		2,876		7,966		(9,527)	
Other income, net		758		267		2,011		1,640	
Income (loss) before taxes		4,384		3,143		9,977		(7,887)	
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes		1,236		950		2,551		(3,119)	
Net income (loss)	\$	3,148	\$	2,193	\$	7,426	\$	(4,768)	
Basic income (loss) per share	\$	.31	\$	.21	\$	.72	\$	(.46)	
Weighted average basic shares outstanding		10,202		10,480		10,333		10,452	
Diluted income (loss) per share	\$	.31	\$	.21	\$	.72	\$	(.46)	
Weighted average diluted shares outstanding	_	10,260		10,497		10,372		10,452	

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The Company reports its Professional Employer Organization services ("PEO") revenues on a net basis because it is not the primary obligor for the services provided by the Company's PEO clients to their customers. The gross revenues and cost of revenues information below, although not in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP"), is presented for comparison purposes and because management believes such information is more informative as to the level of the Company's business activity and more useful in managing its operations.

(in thousands)	Fourth Qu	udited) arter Ended nber 31,	Year	ıdited) Ended ıber 31,
	2010	2009	2010	2009
Revenues:				
Staffing services \$	32,747	\$ 30,931	\$ 125,738	\$ 116,155
Professional employer services	311,495	239,884	1,111,052	903,731
Total revenues	344,242	270,815	1,236,790	1,019,886
Cost of revenues:				
Direct payroll costs	294,058	230,359	1,053,748	866,167
Payroll taxes and benefits	24,671	19,617	96,661	82,077
Workers' compensation	11,901	8,851	41,591	46,047
Total cost of revenues	330,630	258,827	1,192,000	994,291
Gross margin \$	13,612	\$ 11,988	\$ 44,790	\$ 25,595

Gross revenues of \$344.2 million for the fourth quarter ended December 31, 2010 increased 27.1% over the similar period in 2009.

A reconciliation of non-GAAP gross revenues to net revenues is as follows:

For the fourth quarters ended December 31, 2010 and 2009:

				Tł	Unaı) Tree Months En		,		
(in thousands)	_	Gross Reportir	 		Reclass	sific	ation	Net R Reportin	
		2010	 2009		2010 2009		 2010	 2009	
Revenues:									
Staffing services	\$	32,747	\$ 30,931	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 32,747	\$ 30,931
Professional									
employer services		311,495	 239,884		(270,687)		(208,186)	 40,808	 31,698
Total revenues	\$	344,242	\$ 270,815	\$	(270,687)	\$	(208,186)	\$ 73,555	\$ 62,629
Cost of revenues	\$	330,630	\$ 258,827	\$	(270,687)	\$	(208,186)	\$ 59,943	\$ 50,641

For the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009:

				Unau) Year Ended I	,				
(in thousands) Gross Revenue (in thousands) Reporting Method Reclassification			Reportin			Revenue ng Method			
		2010	 2009	 2010	 2009		2010		2009
Revenues:									
Staffing services	\$	125,738	\$ 116,155	\$ -	\$ -	\$	125,738	\$	116,155
Professional									
employer services		1,111,052	 903,731	 (963,667)	 (783,426)		147,385		120,305
Total revenues	\$	1,236,790	\$ 1,019,886	\$ (963,667)	\$ (783,426)	\$	273,123	\$	236,460
Cost of revenues	\$	1,192,000	\$ 994,291	\$ (963,667)	\$ (783,426 <sub>)</sub>	\$	228,333	\$	210,865

The following summarizes the unaudited consolidated balance sheets at December 31, 2010 and December 31, 2009.

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(in thousands) Assets	De	ecember 31, 2010	 December 31, 2009
Current assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	30,924	\$ 36,671
Marketable securities		24,511	13,766
Trade accounts receivable, net		37,596	33,070
Income taxes receivable		214	4,274
Prepaid expenses and other		1,798	979
Deferred income taxes		5,540	4,071
Total current assets		100,583	 92,831
Marketable securities		5,921	7,473
Property, equipment and software, net		15,037	14,795
Restricted marketable securities and workers' compensation			
deposits		8,811	2,666
Other assets		3,094	3,104
Workers' compensation receivables for insured claims		3,915	3,865
Goodwill, net		47,820	47,338
	\$	185,181	\$ 172,072
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity			
Current liabilities:			
Accounts payable	\$	964	\$ 1,117
Accrued payroll, payroll taxes and related benefits		37,525	30,244
Other accrued liabilities		442	499
Workers' compensation claims liabilities		11,462	10,509
Safety incentives liabilities		5,024	4,437
Total current liabilities		55,417	46,806
Long-term workers' compensation claims liabilities		16,944	14,560
Long-term workers' compensation liabilities for insured claims		2,686	2,729
Deferred income taxes		8,079	6,323
Customer deposits and other long-term liabilities		1,422	1,527
Stockholders' equity		100,633	 100,127
	\$	185,181	\$ 172,072

## Outlook for First Quarter 2011

The Company also disclosed today limited financial guidance with respect to its operating results for the first quarter ending March 31, 2011. The Company expects gross revenues for the first quarter of 2011 to range from \$320 million to \$325 million, as compared to \$262.6 million for the first quarter of 2010, and anticipates diluted earnings for the first quarter of 2011 to range from \$.50 to \$.54 per share, as compared to a diluted loss per share of \$.16 for the same period a year ago. The anticipated diluted earnings per share for the 2011 first quarter includes expected proceeds of \$10 million from key man life insurance coverage the Company carried with respect to William W. Sherertz, the Company's President and CEO, who passed away January 20, 2011. Without the effect of the life insurance proceeds, the estimated diluted loss per share for the 2011 first quarter is \$.19 to \$.22 which is consistent with historical first quarter losses. A reconciliation of estimated gross revenues to estimated GAAP net revenues for the first quarter of 2011 is not included because PEO revenues and cost of PEO revenues for the period are not reasonably estimable.

### Conference Call

On Thursday, February 10 at 9:00 a.m. Pacific Time, Tony Meeker, Michael Elich and James Miller will host an investor telephone conference call to discuss fourth quarter 2010 operating results. To participate in the call, dial (877) 214-1511. The call identification number is 42072859. The conference call will also be webcast live at www.barrettbusiness.com. To access the webcast, click on the Investor Relations section of the Web site and select Webcast. A replay of the call will be available beginning Thursday, February 10, 2011 at 12:00 p.m. PT and ending on Thursday, February 17, 2011. To listen to the recording, dial (800) 642-1687 and enter conference identification code 42072859.

Statements in this release about future events or performance, including gross revenues and earnings expectations for the first quarter of 2011, are forward-looking statements, which involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the actual results of the Company to be materially different from any future results expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Factors that could affect future results include economic conditions in the Company's service areas, the effect of changes in the Company's mix of services on gross margin, the Company's ability to retain current customers and attract new customers, future workers' compensation claims experience, the effect of changes in the workers' compensation regulatory environment in one or more of the Company's investment portfolio, among others. Other important factors that may affect the Company's future prospects are described in the Company's 2009 Annual Report on Form 10-K. Although forward-looking statements help to provide complete information about the Company, readers should keep in mind that forward-looking statements may be less reliable than historical information. The Company undertakes no obligation to update or revise forward-looking statements in this release to reflect events or changes in circumstances that occur after the date of this release.

BBSI provides a comprehensive range of human resource management solutions to large and small companies throughout many regions of the United States.

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