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 27, 2018

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))
Indicate 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 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).
Emerging growth company
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 financia accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 2.02. Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On February 27, 2018, Barrett Business Services, Inc., issued a news release announcing its financial results for the fourth quarter and full year ended December 31, 2017, as well as expectations for non-GAAP gross revenue growth and diluted earnings per share for the 2018 full year. 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 27, 2018.

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 27, 2018 By: <u>/s/ Gary Kramer</u>

Gary E. Kramer

Vice President-Finance, Treasurer and Secretary



BBSI Reports Fourth Quarter and Full Year 2017 Financial Results

- Q4 Net Revenues up 11% to \$244.7 Million (Non-GAAP Gross Revenues up 14%) -

VANCOUVER, Washington, February 27, 2018 – Barrett Business Services, Inc. ("BBSI" or the "Company") (NASDAQ: BBSI), a leading provider of business management solutions, reported financial results for the fourth quarter and full year ended December 31, 2017.

Fourth Quarter 2017 Financial Highlights vs. Year-Ago Quarter

- · Net revenues up 11% to \$244.7 million.
- · Non-GAAP gross revenues up 14% to \$1.4 billion.
- · Net income up 30% to \$10.5 million, or \$1.38 per diluted share, compared to net income of \$8.0 million, or \$1.08 per diluted share.

Full Year 2017 Financial Highlights vs. 2016

- · Net revenues up 9% to \$920.4 million.
- · Non-GAAP gross revenues up 13% to \$5.3 billion.
- Net income up 34% to \$25.2 million, or \$3.33 per diluted share, compared to net income of \$18.8 million, or \$2.55 per diluted share.

"We had a strong finish to a strong year which is setting us up well for 2018 and beyond," said Michael Elich, president and CEO of BBSI. "We delivered solid growth across all of our markets and added an additional 120 net new clients in the quarter for a total of 693 net new for the year. These results continue to be driven by the value we bring to our clients every day, our better-than-90% retention rate and the width of new business pipelines."

Fourth Quarter 2017 Financial Results

Net revenues in the fourth quarter of 2017 increased 11% to \$244.7 million compared to \$221.1 million in the fourth quarter of 2016.

Total non-GAAP gross revenues in the fourth quarter increased 14% to \$1.4 billion compared to \$1.3 billion in the same year-ago quarter (see "Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Financial Measures" below). The increase was primarily due to the continued build in the Company's PEO client count and same-customer sales growth, which was partially offset by a decrease from staffing revenues.

Net income for the fourth quarter of 2017 increased 30% to \$10.5 million, or \$1.38 per diluted share, compared to net income of \$8.0 million, or \$1.08 per diluted share, in the year-ago quarter.

Full Year 2017 Financial Results

Net revenues in 2017 increased 9% to \$920.4 million compared to \$840.6 million in 2016.

Total non-GAAP gross revenues increased 13% to \$5.3 billion compared to \$4.7 billion in 2016. The increase was primarily due to the continued build in the Company's PEO client count and same-customer sales growth, which was partially offset by a decrease in staffing revenues.

Net income in 2017 was \$25.2 million or \$3.33 per diluted share compared to \$18.8 million or \$2.55 per diluted share in 2016. Net income for 2017 included approximately \$0.10 per diluted share in costs associated with accounting and securities law issues compared to \$0.69 in 2016.

Outlook

For the full year 2018, the Company expects diluted earnings per share to be approximately \$4.45. This assumes approximately \$0.06 per diluted share in estimated costs associated with outstanding accounting and securities law issues, as well as a lower effective tax rate of approximately 20% resulting from the passage of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act

BBSI expects non-GAAP gross revenues for the next 12-month period (through December 31, 2018) to increase approximately 14%.

Conference Call

BBSI will conduct a conference call tomorrow, February 28, 2018 at 12:00 p.m. Eastern time (9:00 a.m. Pacific time) to discuss its financial results for the fourth quarter and full year ended December 31, 2017. The Company's President and CEO Michael Elich and CFO Gary Kramer will host the call, followed by a question and answer period.

Date: Wednesday, February 28, 2018

Time: 12:00 p.m. Eastern time (9:00 a.m. Pacific time)

Toll-free dial-in number: 1-866-548-4713 International dial-in number: 1-323-794-2093

Conference ID: 9063671

Please call the conference telephone number 5-10 minutes prior to the start time. An operator will register your name and organization. If you have any difficulty connecting with the conference call, please contact Liolios Group at 1-949-574-3860.

The conference call will be broadcast live and available for replay here and via the investor relations section of the BBSI website atwww.barrettbusiness.com.

A replay of the conference call will be available after 3:00 p.m. Eastern time on the same day through March 28, 2018.

Toll-free replay number: 1-844-512-2921 International replay number: 1-412-317-6671

Replay ID: 9063671

Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Financial Measures

In addition to the results prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP"), the Company is disclosing non-GAAP gross revenues.

We report PEO revenues net of direct payroll costs because we are not the primary obligor for wage payments to our clients' employees. The gross revenues and cost of revenues information below, although not in accordance with 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.

Non-GAAP (in thousands)		(Unau Fourth Qua Decem	ded	(Unaudited) Year Ended December 31,				
		2017		2016		2017		2016
Gross revenues:								
Professional employer services	\$	1,387,389	\$	1,211,584	\$	5,138,298	\$	4,526,225
Staffing services		43,995		44,856		162,386		166,662
Total gross revenues		1,431,384		1,256,440		5,300,684		4,692,887
Gross cost of revenues:								
Direct payroll costs		1,210,852		1,061,743		4,469,845		3,951,021
Payroll taxes and benefits		100,419		88,334		404,687		357,867
Workers' compensation		71,163		63,026		267,621		238,463
Total gross cost of revenues		1,382,434		1,213,103		5,142,153		4,547,351
Gross margin	\$	48,950	\$	43,337	\$	158,531	\$	145,536

3

(Unaudited) Quarter Ended December 31,

						Quarter Efficed	Decemb	CI 31,				
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Net R	evenue						Gross l	Revenue	•	
(in thousands)		Reporting Method							Reportin	g Metho	od	
		(GA	AP)		Non-GAAP Adjustments				 (Non-GAAP)			
		2017		2016		2017		2016	2017		2016	
Revenues:					<u>-</u>				 		_	
Professional employer												
services	\$	200,731	\$	176,242	\$	1,186,658	\$	1,035,342	\$ 1,387,389	\$	1,211,584	
Staffing services		43,995		44,856		-		-	43,995		44,856	
Total revenues	\$	244,726	\$	221,098	\$	1,186,658	\$	1,035,342	\$ 1,431,384	\$	1,256,440	
Cost of revenues	\$	195,776	\$	177,761	\$	1,186,658	\$	1,035,342	\$ 1,382,434	\$	1,213,103	

(Unaudited) Year Ended December 31,

(in thousands)	Net Revenue Reporting Method (GAAP) Non-GAAP Adjustments						Gross Revenue Reporting Method (Non-GAAP)				
	 2017 2016 2017 2016				2017	2016					
Revenues:							,				,
Professional employer											
services	\$ 758,046	\$	673,924	\$	4,380,252	\$	3,852,301	\$	5,138,298	\$	4,526,225
Staffing services	162,386		166,662		-		-		162,386		166,662
Total revenues	\$ 920,432	\$	840,586	\$	4,380,252	\$	3,852,301	\$	5,300,684	\$	4,692,887
Cost of revenues	\$ 761,901	\$	695,050	\$	4,380,252	\$	3,852,301	\$	5,142,153	\$	4,547,351

About BBSI

BBSI (NASDAQ: BBSI) is a leading provider of business management solutions, combining human resource outsourcing and professional management consulting to create a unique operational platform that differentiates it from competitors. The Company's integrated platform is built upon expertise in payroll processing, employee benefits, workers' compensation coverage, risk management and workplace safety programs, and human resource administration. BBSI's partnerships help businesses of all sizes improve the efficiency of their operations. The Company works with more than 5,600 clients across all lines of business in 24 states. For more information, please visit www.barrettbusiness.com.

Forward-Looking Statements

Statements in this release about future events or performance, including expectations regarding revenue growth, costs related to outstanding accounting and securities law issues, future effective tax rates, and earnings per share, 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 clients and attract new clients, the availability of financing or other sources of capital, the Company's relationship with its primary bank lender, the potential for material deviations from expected future workers' compensation claims experience, the workers' compensation regulatory environment in the Company's primary markets, litigation costs, the ongoing investigation of accounting issues by the Securities and Exchange Commission and the United States Department of Justice, security breaches or failures in the Company's information technology systems, the collectability of accounts receivable, changes in executive management, the carrying value of deferred income tax assets and goodwill, and the effect of conditions in the global capital markets on the Company's investment portfolio, among others. Other important factors that may affect the Company's prospects are described in the Company's 2016 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 are 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.

Barrett Business Services, Inc. Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets (Unaudited)

(in thousands)	December 31, 2017	D	December 31, 2016		
<u>Assets</u>					
Current assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 59,835	\$	50,768		
Trade accounts receivable, net	136,664		126,484		
Income taxes receivable	1,686		-		
Prepaid expenses and other	5,724		3,899		
Investments	674		5,675		
Restricted cash and investments	103,652		48,557		
Total current assets	308,235		235,383		
Investments	1,199		642		
Property, equipment and software, net	24,909		26,673		
Restricted cash and investments	291,273		252,707		
Goodwill	47,820		47,820		
Other assets	3,215		9,293		
Deferred income taxes	5,834		9,370		
	\$ 682,485	\$	581,888		
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity					
Current liabilities:					
Current portion of long-term debt	\$ 221	\$	221		
Accounts payable	5,166		4,944		
Accrued payroll, payroll taxes and related benefits	181,639		153,110		
Income taxes payable	-		3,041		
Other accrued liabilities	9,024		7,674		
Workers' compensation claims liabilities	97,673		81,339		
Safety incentives liability	28,532		24,835		
Total current liabilities	322,255		275,164		
Long-term workers' compensation claims liabilities	265,844		231,198		
Long-term debt	4,171		4,392		
Customer deposits and other long-term liabilities	1,381		1,441		
Stockholders' equity	88,834		69,693		
	\$ 682,485	\$	581,888		
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Barrett Business Services, Inc. Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations

(Unaudited)

(in thousands, except per share amounts)		Fourth Quarter Ended December 31,				Ended mber 31,		
	2017		2016		2017		2017	
Revenues:	 							
Professional employer service fees	\$ 200,731	\$	176,242	\$	758,046	\$	673,924	
Staffing services	 43,995		44,856		162,386		166,662	
Total revenues	244,726		221,098		920,432		840,586	
Cost of revenues:	 							
Direct payroll costs	33,351		34,086		122,533		126,753	
Payroll taxes and benefits	100,419		88,334		404,687		357,867	
Workers' compensation	62,006		55,341		234,681		210,430	
Total cost of revenues	 195,776		177,761		761,901		695,050	
Gross margin	48,950		43,337		158,531	_	145,536	
Selling, general and administrative expenses	34,543		32,508		123,138		113,342	
Depreciation and amortization	2,463		912		5,452		3,253	
Income from operations	11,944		9,917		29,941		28,941	
Other income (expense), net	1,522		(74)		4,437		(3,355)	
Income before income taxes	13,466		9,843		34,378		25,586	
Provision for income taxes	2,980		1,796		9,208		6,787	
Net income	\$ 10,486	\$	8,047	\$	25,170	\$	18,799	
Basic income per common share	\$ 1.44	\$	1.11	\$	3.46	\$	2.60	
Weighted average basic common shares outstanding	7,300		7,244		7,275		7,226	
Diluted income per common share	\$ 1.38	\$	1.08	\$	3.33	\$	2.55	
Weighted average diluted common shares outstanding	7,585		7,460		7,551		7,378	

Investor Relations: Liolios Cody Slach Tel 1-949-574-3860 $\underline{BBSI@liolios.com}$