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): August 6, 2019

BARRETT BUSINESS SERVICES, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

0-21886 (Commission 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))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Maryland

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

Title of each class	Trading symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share	BBSI	The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC

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 \Box

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.

Item 2.02. Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On August 6, 2019, Barrett Business Services, Inc., issued a news release announcing its financial results for the second quarter ended June 30, 2019. The release also provides management's expectations for diluted earnings per share for the 2019 full year and growth in gross billings for the next rolling 12-month period, together with related assumptions. 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 August 6, 2019.

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: August 6, 2019

By: /s/ Gary E. Kramer

Gary E. Kramer Vice President-Finance, Treasurer and Secretary



BBSI Reports Second Quarter 2019 Financial Results

- Net Income up 24% to \$13.9 Million, or \$1.81 per Diluted Share -

- Authorizes \$50 Million Share Repurchase Program and Raises Quarterly Cash Dividend by 20% to \$0.30 per Share -

VANCOUVER, Washington, August 6, 2019 – Barrett Business Services, Inc. ("BBSI" or the "Company") (NASDAQ: BBSI), a leading provider of business management solutions, reported financial results for the second quarter ended June 30, 2019.

Second Quarter 2019 Financial Summary vs. Year-Ago Quarter

- · Gross billings up 6% to \$1.46 billion.
- · Net revenues down slightly to \$231.0 million versus \$231.6 million.
- Net income improved 24% to \$13.9 million, or \$1.81 per diluted share, compared to \$11.2 million, or \$1.46 per diluted share.

"We reported strong results in the quarter, adding 419 new PEO clients while reaching new milestones as we execute to our plan," said president and CEO, Mike Elich. "I continue to be pleased with our ongoing progress as an organization and the value we are bringing to a growing number of small businesses each day."

BBSI CFO, Gary Kramer commented: "We continue to see the results from various structural moves we have been working on over the past several years, which gives us confidence in a strong long-term financial outlook. This confidence led us to implement a share buyback and raise our dividend, underscoring our commitment to driving shareholder value."

Second Quarter 2019 Financial Results

Net revenues in the second quarter of 2019 decreased slightly to \$231.0 million compared to \$231.6 million in the second quarter of 2018.

Total gross billings in the second quarter increased 6% to \$1.46 billion compared to \$1.38 billion in the same year-ago quarter (see "Key Performance Metrics and 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 in staffing revenue.

Non-GAAP gross workers' compensation expense as a percent of gross billings was 4.2% in the second quarter and benefited from lower frictional costs and a favorable onetime adjustment of prior accident year liability of \$3.0 million. This compares to 4.8% in the second quarter of 2018.

Net income for the second quarter of 2019 improved 24% to \$13.9 million, or \$1.81 per diluted share, compared to net income of \$11.2 million, or \$1.46 per diluted share, in the year-ago quarter.

Net income in the second quarter of 2019 reflected an increase in the effective tax rate to 22%, up from the previous estimate of 18%.

Capital Allocation

On August 5th, BBSI's board of directors authorized a \$50 million share repurchase program over a three-year period beginning August 15, 2019.

The board also authorized a 20% increase in BBSI's quarterly cash dividend to \$0.30 per share. The cash dividend will be paid on September 6, 2019 to all stockholders of record as of August 23, 2019. BBSI has paid a dividend since 2006 without interruption and this is the 8th dividend increase.

Outlook

For the full year 2019, BBSI continues to expect diluted earnings per share of \$5.40. This assumes an increase in the effective tax rate to approximately 22% from 18% prior. In addition, the Company now expects the range for workers' compensation expense as a percentage of gross billings to be 4.4% to 4.6% from 4.6% to 4.8% prior.

BBSI also continues to expect gross billings to increase approximately 8% for the next rolling 12-month period.

Conference Call

BBSI will conduct a conference call on Wednesday, August 7, 2019, at 12:00 p.m. Eastern time (9:00 a.m. Pacific time) to discuss its financial results for the second quarter ended June 30, 2019.

BBSI's President and CEO Michael Elich and CFO Gary Kramer will host the conference call, followed by a question and answer period.

Date: Wednesday, August 7, 2019 Time: 12:00 p.m. Eastern time (9:00 a.m. Pacific time) Toll-free dial-in number: 1-877-407-4018 International dial-in number: 1-201-689-8471 Conference ID: 13692801

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 Gateway Investor Relations at 1-949-574-3860.

The conference call will be broadcast live and available for replayhere and via the investor relations section of the BBSI website at www.barrettbusiness.com.

A replay of the conference call will be available after 3:00 p.m. Eastern time on the same day through September 7, 2019.

Toll-free replay number: 1-844-512-2921 International replay number: 1-412-317-6671 Replay ID: 13692801

Key Performance Metrics and Non-GAAP Financial Measures

We report PEO revenues net of direct payroll costs because we are not the primary obligor for wage payments to our clients' employees. However, management believes that gross billing amounts and wages are useful in understanding the volume of our business activity and serve as an important performance metric in managing our operations, including the preparation of internal operating forecasts and establishing executive compensation performance goals. We therefore present for purposes of analysis gross billing and wage information for the three and six months ended June 30, 2019 and 2018.

		(Unaudited) Three Months Ended June 30,			(Unaudited) Six Months Ended June 30,				
(in thousands)		2019		2018		2019		2018	
Gross billings	\$	1,463,962	\$	1,379,483	\$	2,824,206	\$	2,699,327	
PEO and staffing wages	\$	1,246,576	\$	1,165,860	\$	2,402,947	\$	2,280,567	

Because safety incentives represent consideration payable to PEO customers, safety incentive costs are netted against PEO revenue in our consolidated statements of operations. Management considers safety incentives to be an integral part of our workers' compensation program because they encourage client companies to maintain safe work practices and minimize workplace injuries. We therefore present below for purposes of analysis non-GAAP gross workers' compensation expense, which represents workers' compensation costs including safety incentive costs. We believe this non-GAAP measure is useful in evaluating the total costs of our workers' compensation program.

	(Unaudited)				(Unaudited)			
	 Three Months Ended June 30,			Six Months Ended June 30,				
(in thousands)	2019		2018		2019		2018	
Workers' compensation	\$ 53,174	\$	58,854	\$	107,403	\$	115,976	
Safety incentive costs	7,833		8,039		14,536		15,604	
Non-GAAP gross workers' compensation	\$ 61,007	\$	66,893	\$	121,939	\$	131,580	

In monitoring and evaluating the performance of our operations, management also reviews the following ratios, which represent selected amounts as a percentage of gross billings. Management believes these ratios are useful in understanding the efficiency and profitability of our service offerings.

	Percentage of	idited) Gross Billings Ended June 30,	Percentage of	idited) Gross Billings Inded June 30,
	2019	2018	2019	2018
PEO and staffing wages	85.2%	84.5%	85.1%	84.5%
Payroll taxes and benefits	6.9%	7.1%	7.7%	8.2%
Non-GAAP gross workers' compensation	4.2%	4.8%	4.3%	4.9%

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 6,400 clients across all lines of business in 23 states. For more information, please visit www.barrettbusiness.com.

Forward-Looking Statements

Statements in this release about future events or performance, including expectations regarding gross billings growth, 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 effect of governmental investigations, 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, 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)	June 30, 2019		December 31, 2018	
Assets				
Current assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	23,693	\$	35,371
Trade accounts receivable, net		163,228		151,597
Prepaid expenses and other		15,720		13,880
Investments		77,271		416
Restricted cash and investments		108,275		120,409
Total current assets		388,187		321,673
Investments		-		1,687
Property, equipment and software, net		27,999		24,812
Operating lease right-of-use assets		25,005		_
Restricted cash and investments		335,966		348,165
Goodwill		47,820		47,820
Other assets		3,329		3,474
Deferred income taxes		5,897		8,458
	\$	834,203	\$	756,089
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity				
Current liabilities:				
Current portion of long-term debt	\$	221	\$	221
Accounts payable		4,824		4,336
Accrued payroll, payroll taxes and related benefits		181,966		158,683
Income taxes payable		2,670		4,403
Current operating lease liabilities		6,381		
Other accrued liabilities		15,908		20,566
Workers' compensation claims liabilities		108,289		109,319
Safety incentives liability		27,316		29,210
Total current liabilities		347,575		326,738
Long-term workers' compensation claims liabilities		322,447		304,078
Long-term debt		3,840		3,951
Long-term operating lease liabilities		19,101		
Customer deposits and other long-term liabilities		3,773		2,285
Stockholders' equity		137,467		119,037
	\$	834,203	\$	756,089

Barrett Business Services, Inc. Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations (Unaudited)

(in thousands, except per share amounts)	(Unaudited) Three Months Ended June 30,				(Unaudited) Six Months Ended June 30,				
		2019		2018		2019		2018	
Revenues:									
Professional employer service fees	\$	203,157	\$	197,277	\$	393,684	\$	386,239	
Staffing services		27,825		34,326		55,513		69,340	
Total revenues		230,982		231,603		449,197		455,579	
Cost of revenues:									
Direct payroll costs		20,992		26,020		41,834		52,423	
Payroll taxes and benefits		101,697		98,249		216,494		222,437	
Workers' compensation		53,174		58,854		107,403		115,976	
Total cost of revenues		175,863		183,123		365,731		390,836	
Gross margin		55,119		48,480		83,466		64,743	
Selling, general and administrative expenses		39,005		35,614		72,165		65,043	
Depreciation and amortization		970		1,274		1,939		2,278	
Income (loss) from operations	-	15,144		11,592		9,362		(2,578)	
Other income, net		2,851		2,121		5,458		4,114	
Income before income taxes	-	17,995		13,713		14,820		1,536	
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes		4,088		2,473		3,213		(581)	
Net income	\$	13,907	\$	11,240	\$	11,607	\$	2,117	
Basic income per common share	\$	1.88	\$	1.54	\$	1.57	\$	0.29	
Weighted average basic common shares outstanding		7,410		7,310		7,408		7,307	
Diluted income per common share	\$	1.81	\$	1.46	\$	1.51	\$	0.28	
Weighted average diluted common shares outstanding		7,692		7,675		7,674		7,658	

Investor Relations: Gateway Investor Relations Cody Slach Tel 1-949-574-3860 BBSI@gatewayir.com