

**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): January 31, 2018 (January 25, 2018)

**KemPharm, Inc.**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware  
(State or Other Jurisdiction  
of Incorporation)

001-36913  
(Commission File Number)

20-5894398  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

2500 Crosspark Road, Suite E126  
Coralville, IA  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

52241  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code: (319) 665-2575

Not Applicable  
(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

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 (see General Instructions A.2. below):

- 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 financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

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

(e)

**2017 Cash Bonus Payouts**

On January 25, 2018, the Compensation Committee (the "Compensation Committee") of the Board of Directors (the "Board") of KemPharm, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), approved the payment of cash bonuses to the Company's named executive officers and principal financial officer (the "Executive Officers") based on the achievement in 2017 of corporate and individual goals previously approved by the Board. The amounts awarded to the Executive Officers were as follows:

<b>Executive Officer and Principal Position</b>	<b>Bonus Amount</b>
Travis C. Mickle, Ph.D. President and Chief Executive Officer	\$ 136,000
Sven Guenther, Ph.D. Executive Vice President, Research and Development	\$ 65,688
Daniel L. Cohen Executive Vice President, Government and Public Relations	\$ 66,640
R. LaDuane Clifton, CPA Chief Financial Officer, Secretary and Treasurer	\$ 61,880

**2018 Base Salaries and Cash Bonus Plan Target Payouts**

On January 25, 2018, the Compensation Committee approved the 2018 base salaries and target bonus awards for the Executive Officers. The 2018 bonus awards for the Executive Officers will be based on the achievement of corporate and individual goals, as approved by the Board. The 2018 base salaries and target bonus awards for the Executive Officers are as follows:

<b>Executive Officer and Principal Position</b>	<b>2018 Base Salary</b>	<b>Bonus Target <sup>(1)</sup></b>
Travis C. Mickle, Ph.D. President and Chief Executive Officer	\$ 515,000	50%
Sven Guenther, Ph.D. Executive Vice President, Research and Development	\$ 355,000	35%
Daniel L. Cohen Executive Vice President, Government and Public Relations	\$ 350,000	35%
R. LaDuane Clifton, CPA Chief Financial Officer, Secretary and Treasurer	\$ 335,000	35%

(1) Bonus Targets listed as percentage of 2018 Base Salary

## 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.

**KemPharm, Inc.**

Date: January 31, 2018

By: /s/ R. LaDuane Clifton

R. LaDuane Clifton

Chief Financial Officer, Secretary and Treasurer