UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, DC 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): September 30, 2022

AQUA METALS, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation) **001-37515** (Commission File Number) 47-1169572 (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

5370 Kietzke Lane, Suite 201 Reno, Nevada 89511

(Address of principal executive offices)

(775) 446-4418

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

(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 obligations 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 240.14d-2(b)

□ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b)

D 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 \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.

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

Title of each class Common stock: Par value \$.001 Trading Symbol(s) AQMS Name of each exchange on which registered Nasdaq Capital Market

Item 1.01 Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.

On September 30, 2022, Aqua Metals Reno, Inc., our wholly-owned subsidiary, entered into a Loan Agreement with Summit Investment Services, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company as to an undivided 90.8334% interest, Darren McBride, Trustee of the Arduino 1 Trust, U/A dated April 25, 2022, as to an undivided 8.3333% interest and Jason Yelowitz, Trustee of the Jason Yelowitz 2006 Trust, Dated March 31, 2006 as to an undivided .8333% interest (collectively, the "Lenders"), pursuant to which the Lenders provided us with a loan in the amount of \$6 million. The loan proceeds are expected to provide a non-dilutive path to expand the Company's cash position and ensure sufficient resources to reach revenue generation. The loan accrues interest at a fixed annual rate of 8.50%. Interest-only payments are due monthly for the first twenty-four months and the principal and all unpaid interest). The Loan Agreement includes representations, warranties, and affirmative and negative covenants that are customary of institutional loan agreements. The loan is collateralized by a first priority lien interest on our assets, other than our intellectual property, and is guaranteed by Aqua Metals, Inc.

Item 2.03 Creation of a Direct Financial Obligation or an Obligation under an Off-Balance Sheet Arrangement of a Registrant.

On September 30, 2022, Aqua Metals Reno, Inc., our wholly-owned subsidiary, entered into a Loan Agreement. The terms of the loan are described in Item 1.01 above.

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.

AQUA METALS, INC.

Dated: October 6, 2022

/s/ Judd Merrill Judd Merrill, Chief Financial Officer