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): July 24, 2023

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)

D 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 \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. \Box

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 4.01 Changes in Registrant's Certifying Accountant.

On July 24, 2023, Aqua Metals, Inc. (the "Company") was notified by Armanino LLP ("Armanino"), the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, of Armanino's decision to transition away from providing certain financial statement audit services to public companies. Therefore, Armanino additionally informed the Company of its intent to resign as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, effective just after the filing of the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the interim period ending September 30, 2023. Armanino will remain engaged by the Company to complete its review of the Company's interim financial statements through the interim period ended September 30, 2023.

Armanino is not required to and did not seek the Company's consent to its decision to resign as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm. As a result, neither the Company's Board of Directors nor the Company's Audit Committee took part in Armanino's decision to resign. The Company is in the process of selecting a new independent registered public accounting firm.

Armanino audited the Company's consolidated financial statements as of and for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021. The reports of Armanino on the financial statements of the Company for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 did not contain any adverse opinion or disclaimer of opinion and were not qualified or modified as to uncertainty, audit scope or accounting principles.

During the Company's fiscal years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, and through the interim period ended March 31, 2023, there were no disagreements between the Company and Armanino on any matter of accounting principles or practices, financial statement disclosure, or auditing scope or procedure, which disagreements, if not resolved to the satisfaction of Armanino, would have caused Armanino to make reference to the subject matter of the disagreements in connection with its audit reports on the Company's financial statements. During the Company's two most recent fiscal years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the interim period ended March 31, 2023, Armanino did not advise the Company of any "reportable events" within the meaning of Item 304(a)(1)(v) of Regulation S-K with respect to the Company.

The Company provided Armanino with a copy of this Current Report on Form 8-K in accordance with Item 304(a) of Regulation S-K prior to its filing with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") and requested that Armanino furnish the Company with a letter addressed to the Commission stating whether it agrees with the above statements and, if it does not agree, the respects in which it does not agree. A copy of the letter from Armanino is filed as Exhibit 16.1 hereto.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits

The following exhibits are filed with this report:

Exhibit	
Number	Exhibit Description
16.1	Letter from Armanino LLP, Dated July 27, 2023
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document)
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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: July 28, 2023

/s/ Judd Merrill Judd Merrill Chief Financial Officer

July 27, 2023

Securities and Exchange Commission 100 F Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20549

Commissioners:

We have read Item 4.01 of the Current Report on Form 8-K of Aqua Metals, Inc. dated July 24, 2023, which we understand will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, and we agree with the statements concerning our firm contained in such Form 8-K. We have no basis to agree or disagree with other statements of the registrant contained therein.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Armanino LLP

Armanino LLP San Ramon, California