

FIRST MID ILLINOIS BANCSHARES INC
Form 8-K
April 13, 2018

**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): April 13, 2018

FIRST MID-ILLINOIS BANCSHARES, INC.
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction of
Incorporation)

0-13368
(Commission File Number)

37-1103704
(I.R.S. Employer Identification
Number)

**1421 CHARLESTON AVENUE, MATTOON, IL
61938**
(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

(217) 234-7454
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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))

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (17 CFR §230.405) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (17 CFR §240.12b-2). 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 8.01. Other Events.

As previously announced, on December 11, 2017, the Company and Project Hawks Merger Sub LLC, a newly formed Delaware limited liability company and wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company (“Merger Sub”), entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger (as amended by the First Amendment to Agreement and Plan of Merger entered into as of January 18, 2018, the “Merger Agreement”) with First Bank, pursuant to which, among other things, the Company agreed to acquire 100% of the issued and outstanding shares of First Bank pursuant to a business combination whereby First Bank will merge with and into Merger Sub, with Merger Sub as the surviving entity and a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company (the “Merger”).

On April 13, 2018, the Company issued a press release announcing that the closing date for the Merger is expected to be May 1, 2018 and that, in preparation for the expected closing of the Merger and in accordance with the Merger Agreement, on April 13, 2018, the board of directors of the Company declared a special pro-rated dividend in the amount of \$0.29 per share payable on April 30, 2018 to shareholders of record as of April 23, 2018. The \$0.29 per share amount represents a pro-ration of the Company’s current semi-annual dividend. Subject to customary closing conditions, the Merger is expected to occur on or about May 1, 2018, and the special pro-rated dividend is being declared and paid in order to align the Company and First Bank’s respective dividend policies ahead of closing. The Merger Agreement requires that the Company and First Bank coordinate the declaration of their respective dividends so that the holders of First Bank common stock do not receive two dividends, or fail to receive one dividend, in connection with the Merger.

In accordance with the Company’s current dividend policy, and subject to the discretion of, and declaration by, the Company’s board of directors, it is anticipated that the next dividend shareholders of the Company will receive (including First Bank shareholders as shareholders of the Company, assuming the closing of the merger) will be a pro-rated portion of the Company’s semi-annual dividend that will be payable in early June 2018 (for the period between the record date of the special dividend announced today and the record date for the semi-annual dividend payable in early June 2018). The final total amount of the anticipated semi-annual dividend for the pro-rated period is subject to the discretion of, and declaration by, the Company’s board of directors later this year.

The press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

Forward Looking Statements

This document may contain certain forward-looking statements about First Mid-Illinois Bancshares, Inc. (“First Mid”) and First BancTrust Corporation (“First Bank”), such as discussions of First Mid’s and First Bank’s pricing and fee trends, credit quality and outlook, liquidity, new business results, expansion plans, anticipated expenses and planned schedules. First Mid and First Bank intend such forward-looking statements to be covered by the safe harbor provisions for forward-looking statements contained in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements, which are based on certain assumptions and describe future plans, strategies and expectations of First Mid and First Bank, are identified by use of the words “believe,” “expect,” “intend,” “anticipate,” “estimate,” “project,” or similar expressions. Actual results could differ materially from the results indicated by these statements because the realization of those results is subject to many risks and uncertainties, including, among other things, the possibility that any of the anticipated benefits of the proposed transactions between First Mid and First Bank will not be realized or will not be realized within the expected time period; the risk that integration of the operations of First Bank with First Mid will be materially delayed or will be more costly or difficult than expected; the failure to satisfy other conditions to completion of the proposed transactions, including receipt of required regulatory and other approvals; the failure of the proposed transactions to close for any other reason; the effect of the announcement of the transaction on customer relationships and operating results; the possibility that the transaction may be more expensive to complete than anticipated, including as a result of unexpected factors or events; changes in interest rates; general economic conditions and those in the market areas of First Mid and First Bank; legislative/regulatory changes; monetary and fiscal policies of the U.S. Government, including policies of the U.S.

Treasury and the Federal Reserve Board; the quality or composition of First Mid's and First Bank's loan or investment portfolios and the valuation of those investment portfolios; demand for loan products; deposit flows; competition, demand for financial services in the market areas of First Mid and First Bank; and accounting principles, policies and guidelines. Additional information concerning First Mid, including additional factors and risks that could materially affect First Mid's financial results, are included in First Mid's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), including its Annual Reports on Form 10-K. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made. Except as required under the federal securities laws or the rules and regulations of the SEC, we do not undertake any obligation to update or review any forward-looking information, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) *Exhibits.*

Exhibit Index

Exhibit No. Description

99.1 Press Release, dated April 13,
2018.

SIGNATURE

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.

FIRST MID-ILLINOIS BANCSHARES, INC.

Date: April 13, 2018

By: /s/ Joseph R. Dively
Joseph R. Dively
Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer