

AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING CO

Form 4

March 13, 2017

**FORM 4****UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287

Expires: January 31, 2005

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Check this box  
if no longer  
subject to  
Section 16.  
Form 4 or  
Form 5  
obligations  
may continue.  
See Instruction  
1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF  
SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,  
Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section  
30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
Kunkel William R.

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading  
Symbol  
AMERICAN EQUITY  
INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING  
CO [AEL]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to  
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

☒ Director ☐ 10% Owner  
☐ Officer (give title below) ☐ Other (specify below)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)

6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY

03/09/2017

(Street)

4. If Amendment, Date Original  
Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check  
Applicable Line)

☒ Form filed by One Reporting Person  
☐ Form filed by More than One Reporting  
Person

WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266

(City) (State) (Zip)

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3.<br>Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 4. Securities<br>Acquired (A) or<br>Disposed of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or<br>Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Common<br>Stock                       | 03/09/2017                              |                                                             | A                                       | 2,168<br><u>A</u><br>(1)                                                   | \$ 0 12,906                                                                                                        | D                                                                    |                                                                   |
| Common<br>Stock                       |                                         |                                                             |                                         |                                                                            | 32,487                                                                                                             | I                                                                    | By JoAnn<br>M. Kunkel<br>2010<br>Living<br>Trust                  |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

**Persons who respond to the collection of  
information contained in this form are not**

SEC 1474  
(9-02)

**required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**  
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 5. Number<br>of<br>Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed<br>of (D)<br>(Instr. 3,<br>4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Underlying<br>Securities<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) | 9. Nu<br>Deriv<br>Secur<br>Bene<br>Own<br>Follo<br>Repo<br>Trans<br>(Instr |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                     |                                                                    |                                         |                                                             | Code                                 | V (A) (D)                                                                                                          | Date<br>Exercisable                                            | Expiration<br>Date                                                        | Title                                               | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares                                     |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                         | Relationships                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|                                                                        | Director 10% Owner Officer Other |
| Kunkel William R.<br>6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY<br>WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266 | X                                |

## Signatures

Renee D. Montz, by Power of Attorney 03/13/2017

\_\_Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).

\*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

(1) An award of restricted stock units pursuant to the American Equity Investment Life Holding Company 2009 Employee Incentive Plan that vested and converted into shares of common stock.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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