

IDERA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.
Form 8-K
April 10, 2019

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): **April 8, 2019**

Idera Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware
(State or Other
Jurisdiction of
Incorporation)

001-31918
(Commission File
Number)

04-3072298
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

505 Eagleview Blvd., Suite 212
Exton, Pennsylvania
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

19341
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(484) 348-1600**

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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 Instruction 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 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.**

On April 8, 2019, the Board of Directors (the Board) of Idera Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (the Company) elected Cristina Csimma, Pharm. D., M.H.P. and Michael Dougherty as Class I directors with a term expiring at the 2020 annual meeting of stockholders, effective immediately.

Effective upon joining the Board, Dr. Csimma and Mr. Dougherty became eligible to receive the standard compensation provided by the Company to its other non-employee directors, as more fully described in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 6, 2019. Pursuant to this policy, Dr. Csimma and Mr. Dougherty will each receive an annual cash retainer of \$40,000 for service on the Board. These retainers are payable quarterly in arrears.

The Company's director compensation program includes a stock-for-fees policy, under which directors have the right to elect to receive common stock in lieu of cash fees. These shares of common stock are issued under the Company's 2013 Stock Incentive Plan. The number of shares issued to participating directors is determined on a quarterly basis by dividing the cash fees to be paid through the issuance of common stock by the fair market value of the Company's common stock, which is the closing price of the common stock on the first business day of the quarter following the quarter in which the fees are earned.

In addition, under the Company's director compensation program, Dr. Csimma and Mr. Dougherty were each granted an option to purchase 23,000 shares of the Company's common stock upon their election to the board of directors. Dr. Csimma and Mr. Dougherty will each also be eligible to receive, as are all non-employee directors, an annual option grant to purchase 11,500 shares of our common stock. The options to purchase shares will vest with respect to one-third of the underlying shares on the first anniversary of the date of grant and with respect to the balance in eight equal quarterly installments following the first anniversary of the date of grant, subject to continued service as a director. These options are granted with exercise prices equal to the fair market value of our common stock, which is the closing price of our common stock, on the date of grant and will become immediately exercisable in full if there is a change in control of our company.

Dr. Csimma and Mr. Dougherty will be subject to the Company's director retirement policy, which provides for automatic vesting of options and an extension of the exercise period upon the retirement of a non-employee director. Further, Dr. Csimma and Mr. Dougherty will also enter into the Company's standard form of indemnification agreement, a copy of which was filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q (File No. 001-31918) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 4, 2017.

Dr. Csimma and Mr. Dougherty were elected in accordance with the criteria set forth in the Company's corporate governance guidelines. There was no arrangement or understanding between Dr. Csimma or Mr. Dougherty and any other persons, pursuant to which Dr. Csimma or Mr. Dougherty were elected as directors. Neither Dr. Csimma nor Mr. Dougherty have family relationships with any director, executive officer or any person nominated or chosen by the Company to become a director or executive officer, and there are no related party transactions between Dr. Csimma or Mr. Dougherty and the Company.

The Company also announced that Dr. Kelvin Neu will resign from the Board effective June 4, 2019.

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.

IDERA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

By: */s/ Bryant D. Lim*
Bryant D. Lim
Senior V.P., General Counsel

Dated: April 10, 2019