

Ryman Hospitality Properties, Inc.  
Form 8-K  
December 01, 2017

**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): December 1, 2017 (November 30, 2017)**

**RYMAN HOSPITALITY PROPERTIES, INC.**

**(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)**

**Delaware**  
**(State or other jurisdiction**  
  
**of incorporation)**

**1-13079**  
**(Commission**  
  
**File Number)**

**73-0664379**  
**(I.R.S. Employer**  
  
**Identification No.)**

**One Gaylord Drive**

**Nashville, Tennessee**  
**(Address of principal executive offices)**

**37214**  
**(Zip Code)**

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (615) 316-6000**

**(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 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 Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§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 5.02. DEPARTURE OF DIRECTORS OR CERTAIN OFFICERS; ELECTION OF DIRECTORS; APPOINTMENT OF CERTAIN OFFICERS; COMPENSATORY ARRANGEMENTS OF CERTAIN OFFICERS.**

On November 30, 2017, the members of the Board of Directors (the Board) of Ryman Hospitality Properties, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the Company), appointed Fazal Merchant to fill the vacancy previously created by the resignation of William F. Hagerty, IV as a director on July 21, 2017. The Board has determined that Mr. Merchant qualifies as an independent director within the meaning of the New York Stock Exchange listing standards. Mr. Merchant has been named to the Audit Committee of the Board. Mr. Merchant will hold office until the Company's 2018 annual meeting of stockholders, at which time he will be considered for election for a one year term expiring in 2019.

Mr. Merchant's compensation for his services as director will be consistent with that of the Company's other non-employee directors, as described in Exhibit 10.28 to the Company's 2016 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) on February 28, 2017. Other than the foregoing standard compensation arrangements, there are no other arrangements or understandings between Mr. Merchant and any other person pursuant to which he was appointed as a director. Mr. Merchant is not a party to any transaction with the Company that would require disclosure under Item 404(a) of Regulation S-K.

A copy of the press release announcing Mr. Merchant's appointment to the Board is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference.

**ITEM 9.01. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.**

(d) Exhibits

99.1 Press Release of Ryman Hospitality Properties, Inc. dated November 30, 2017.

**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.

RYMAN HOSPITALITY PROPERTIES, INC.

Date: December 1, 2017

By: /s/ Scott Lynn

Name: Scott Lynn

Senior Vice President, General Counsel and

Title: Secretary