AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING CO Form 8-K January 09, 2006

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): January 3, 2006

AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING COMPANY

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

IOWA (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

001-31911 (Commission File Number)

42-1447959 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

5000 Westown Parkway, Suite 440, West Des Moines, Iowa (Address of Principal Executive Offices)

50266 (Zip Code)

(515) 221-0002

(Registrant s telephone number, including area code)

NOT APPLICABLE

(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:
o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Item 5.02(b) Departure of Directors or Principal Officers; Elections of Directors; Appointment of Principal Officers

On January 3, 2006, Mr. Ben T. Morris resigned his position as a Director of American Equity Investment Life Holding Company. In connection with Mr. Morris resignation from the board, the size of the board was reduced to 10 members.

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.

Date: January 9, 2006

AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING COMPANY

By: /s/ Wendy L. Carlson

Wendy L. Carlson Chief Financial Officer and General Counsel

3