

Ameris Bancorp  
Form 8-K  
February 08, 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): February 6, 2017

Ameris Bancorp  
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Georgia 001-13901 58-1456434  
(State or Other (Commission File Number) (IRS Employer  
Jurisdiction of Identification No.)  
Incorporation)

310 First Street, S.E., Moultrie, Georgia 31768  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (229)  
890-1111

(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

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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))

**Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.**

Effective February 6, 2017, Andrew B. Cheney, formerly Banking Group President of Ameris Bancorp (the “Company”) and President of the Company’s banking subsidiary, Ameris Bank, was appointed to serve as Chief Banking Executive of the Company and Ameris Bank. Also effective as of that date, Lawton E. Bassett, III assumed the roles of Banking Group President of the Company and President of Ameris Bank. Mr. Bassett has been with the Company since 1997 and most recently served as Executive Vice President and Chief Banking Officer for the Georgia and Alabama regions of the Company and Ameris Bank.

**SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, hereunto duly authorized.

**AMERIS BANCORP**

By: /s/ Dennis J. Zember Jr.  
Dennis J. Zember Jr.  
Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer  
and Chief Operating Officer

Date: February 8, 2017