

**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): June 1, 2012**

---

**AVI BioPharma, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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

**001-14895**  
(Commission  
File Number)

**93-0797222**  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**3450 Monte Villa Parkway, Suite 101  
Bothell, WA 98021**  
(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

**(425) 354-5038**  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

(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))

---

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

On June 1, 2012, Peter Linsley, Ph.D., Senior Vice President and Chief Scientific Officer of AVI BioPharma, Inc. (the “Company”), effected his resignation from his position with the Company. The Company had previously disclosed Dr. Linsley’s intention to resign from his position with the Company in a Form 8-K filed April 12, 2012.

---

**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.

**AVI BioPharma, Inc.**

By: /s/ Christopher Garabedian  
Christopher Garabedian  
President and Chief Executive Officer

Date: June 5, 2012