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): July 17, 2017

NewLink Genetics Corporation

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware001-3534242-1491350(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)(Commission
File Number)(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

2503 South Loop Drive Ames, IA

50010

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (515) 296-5555

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 (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))
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- [] 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 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§ 240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company o

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 o

Section 5 - Corporate Governance and Management

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

On July 14, 2017, Joseph Saluri resigned his position as a member of the board of directors of NewLink Genetics Corporation ("NewLink"). Mr. Saluri has recently taken a new position with Calyxt, Inc., and with his new responsibilities he determined that it was not feasible to continue as a member of the NewLink board. Mr. Saluri served as a director of NewLink since May 2010. His resignation is not due to any disagreement with NewLink regarding any of its operations, policies or practices.

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.

Dated: July 17, 2017

NewLink Genetics Corporation

By: <u>/s/ John B. Henneman III</u>

John B. Henneman III

Its: Chief Financial Officer