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Whitestone REIT
Form 8-K
February 06, 2019

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): January 31, 2019

Whitestone REIT
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Maryland 001-34855 76-0594970

(State or Other Jurisdiction (Commission (IRS Employer
of incorporation) File Number) Identification No.)

2600 South Gessner, Suite 500
Houston, TX 77063

(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

(713) 827-9595

(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:

- ☐ 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))

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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 ☐

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 1.01. Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.

On January 31, 2019, Whitestone REIT (the “Company”), through its operating partnership, Whitestone REIT Operating Partnership, L.P. (the “Operating Partnership”), entered into an unsecured credit facility (the “2019 Facility”) with the lenders party thereto, Bank of Montreal, as administrative agent (the “Agent”), SunTrust Robinson Humphrey, as syndication agent, and BMO Capital Markets Corp., U.S. Bank National Association, SunTrust Robinson Humphrey and Regions Capital Markets, as co-lead arrangers and joint book runners. The 2019 Facility amended and restated the Company’s previous unsecured revolving credit facility, dated November 7, 2014, as amended on October 30, 2015 and December 8, 2016.

The 2019 Facility is comprised of the following three tranches:

- \$250.0 million unsecured revolving credit facility with a maturity date of January 1, 2023 (the “Revolver”);
- \$165.0 million unsecured term loan with a maturity date of January 31, 2024 (“Term Loan A”); and
- \$100.0 million unsecured term loan with a maturity date of October 30, 2022 (“Term Loan B” and together with Term Loan A, the “Term Loans”).

Borrowings under the 2019 Facility accrue interest (at the Operating Partnership's option) at a Base Rate or an Adjusted LIBOR plus an applicable margin based upon the Company’s then existing leverage. The applicable margin for Adjusted LIBOR borrowings ranges from 1.40% to 1.90% for the Revolver and 1.35% to 1.90% for the Term Loans. Base Rate means the higher of: (a) the Agent's prime commercial rate, (b) the sum of (i) the average rate quoted by the Agent by two or more federal funds brokers selected by the Agent for sale to the Agent at face value of federal funds in the secondary market in an amount equal or comparable to the principal amount for which such rate is being determined, plus (ii) 1/2 of 1.00%, and (c) the LIBOR rate for such day plus 1.00%. Adjusted LIBOR means LIBOR divided by one minus the Eurodollar Reserve Percentage. The Eurodollar Reserve Percentage means the maximum reserve percentage at which reserves are imposed by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System on eurocurrency liabilities. Pursuant to the 2019 Facility, in the event of certain circumstances that result in the unavailability of LIBOR, including but not limited to LIBOR no longer being a widely recognized benchmark rate for newly originated dollar loans in the U.S. market, the Operating Partnership and the Agent will establish an alternate interest rate to LIBOR giving due consideration to prevailing market conventions and will amend the 2019 Facility to give effect to such alternate interest rate.

The Company, each direct and indirect material subsidiary of the Operating Partnership and any other subsidiary of the Operating Partnership that is a guarantor under any unsecured ratable debt will serve as a guarantor for funds borrowed by the Operating Partnership under the 2019 Facility. The 2019 Facility contains customary terms and conditions, including, without limitation, customary representations and warranties and affirmative and negative covenants including, without limitation, information reporting requirements, limitations on investments, acquisitions, loans and advances, mergers, consolidations and sales, incurrence of liens, dividends and restricted payments. In addition, the 2019 Facility contains certain financial covenants including the following:

- maximum total indebtedness to total asset value ratio of 0.60 to 1.00;
- maximum secured debt to total asset value ratio of 0.40 to 1.00;
- minimum EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, amortization or extraordinary items) to fixed charges ratio of 1.50 to 1.00;
- maximum other recourse debt to total asset value ratio of 0.15 to 1.00; and
- maintenance of a minimum tangible net worth of \$372 million plus 75% of the net proceeds from additional equity offerings.

The 2019 Facility also contains customary events of default with customary notice and cure, including, without limitation, nonpayment, breach of covenant, misrepresentation of representations and warranties in a material respect, cross-default to other major indebtedness, change of control, bankruptcy and loss of REIT tax status. If an event of default occurs and is continuing under the 2019 Facility, the lenders may, among other things, terminate their commitments under the 2019 Facility and require the immediate payment of all amounts owed thereunder.

The 2019 Facility includes an accordion feature that will allow the Operating Partnership to increase the borrowing capacity by \$200.0 million, upon the satisfaction of certain conditions. The Company used \$446,200,000 of proceeds from the 2019 Facility to repay amounts outstanding under its previous unsecured revolving credit facility and intends to use the remaining proceeds from the 2019 Facility for general corporate purposes, including property acquisitions, debt repayment, capital expenditures, the expansion, redevelopment and re-tenanting of properties in its portfolio and working capital.

The foregoing description of the 2019 Facility does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by the terms of the 2019 Facility, which is filed as Exhibit 10.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and incorporated herein by reference.

Item 2.03. Creation of a Direct Financial Obligation or an Obligation under an Off-Balance Sheet Arrangement of a Registrant.

The information provided in Item 1.01 of this Current Report on Form 8-K is incorporated in this Item 2.03 by reference.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit No.	Description
<u>10.1</u>	<u>Second Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of January 31, 2019, among Whitestone REIT Operating Partnership, L.P., Whitestone REIT, et al., as guarantors, the lenders party thereto, and Bank of Montreal, as Administrative Agent.</u>
<u>99.1</u>	<u>Press release of Whitestone REIT, dated February 6, 2019.</u>

SIGNATURE

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.

	Whitestone REIT
	/s/ David
Date: February 6, 2019	By: K.
	Holeman
	David K.
	Holeman
	Chief
	Financial
	Officer