### Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING CO - Form 4

| Form 4  | EQUITY INVE              | STMEN'   | T LIFE H  | OLDING   | СО           |  |  |   |  |  |  |
|---|--------------------------|--|---|--|--------------|--|--|---|--|--|--|
| June 17, 2016         FORM 4         Check this box         if no longer         subject to         Section 16.         Form 4 or         Form 5         obligations         may continue.         See Instruction         1(b).              Subject to           Section 16.       Form 5           obligations       may continue.       See Instruction       1(b).       See Instruction       1(b). |                          |  |   |  |              | OMB APPROVAL<br>OMB 3235-0287<br>Number: January 31,<br>Expires: 2005<br>Estimated average<br>burden hours per<br>response 0.5 |  |   |  |  |  |
| (Print or Type R  | esponses)                |  |   |  |              |  |  |   |  |  |  |
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person <u>*</u><br>Kunkel William R.   |                          |  | 2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading<br>Symbol<br>AMERICAN EQUITY<br>INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING<br>CO [AEL] |  |              |  |  | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to<br>Issuer<br>(Check all applicable)<br>_X_Director10% Owner   |  |  |  |
| (Last)<br>6000 WEST   | (First) (1<br>OWN PARKWA | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction<br>(Month/Day/Year)<br>06/15/2016                                    |   |  |              |  | Officer (give titleOther (specify below) |   |  |  |  |
|   |                          |  |   | 4. If Amendment, Date Original<br>Filed(Month/Day/Year)  |              |  |  | <ul> <li>6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check</li> <li>Applicable Line)</li> <li>_X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person</li> <li> Form filed by More than One Reporting</li> </ul> |  |  |  |
|   |                          |  |   |  |              |  |  | Person  |  |  |  |
| (City)<br>1.Title of<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)  |                          | (Zip) <b>Table</b><br>tion Date 2A. Deemed<br>ay/Year) Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) |   | e I - Non-Derivative Securities Ad<br>3. 4. Securities<br>TransactionAcquired (A) or<br>Code Disposed of (D)<br>(Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)<br>(A)<br>or<br>Code V Amount (D) Price |              |  | or<br>D)                                 | quired, Disposed of<br>5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4)   | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or<br>Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of                                     |  |
| Common<br>Stock   | 06/15/2016               |  |   | А  | 4,750<br>(1) | A  | \$0                                      | 10,738  | D  |  |  |
| Common<br>Stock   |                          |  |   |  | <u></u>      |  |  | 32,487  | Ι  | By JoAnn<br>M. Kunkel<br>2010<br>Living<br>Trust |  |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)

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# required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

# Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4.<br>Transactic<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | of<br>Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed<br>of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, |                     | ate                | 7. Title<br>Amour<br>Underl<br>Securit<br>(Instr. 1 | nt of<br>lying                         | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) | 9. Nu<br>Deriv<br>Secu<br>Bene<br>Owno<br>Follo<br>Repo<br>Trans<br>(Instr |
|---|---|---|--|--|---------------------|--------------------|---|--|---|--|
|   |   |   | Code V                                 | 4, and 5)<br>(A) (D)   | Date<br>Exercisable | Expiration<br>Date | Title   | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares |   |  |

### **Reporting Owners**

| Reporting Owner Name / Address   | Relationships |           |         |       |  |  |  |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|--|--|--|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |  |  |  |
| Kunkel William R.<br>6000 WESTOWN PARKWAY<br>WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266 | Х             |           |         |       |  |  |  |
| Signatures   |               |           |         |       |  |  |  |
| Renee D. Montz, by Power of Attorney                                   |               | 06/17/201 | 6       |       |  |  |  |
| **Signature of Reporting Person  |               | Date      |         |       |  |  |  |

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) An award of restricted stock that vests one year from the date of grant or on the day of AEL's 2017 annual meeting of the shareholders, whichever is earlier.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.