AMERICAN REALTY INVESTORS INC Form 8-K October 26, 2011

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

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): October 25, 2011

AMERICAN REALTY INVESTORS, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Nevada 001-15663 75-2847135

(State or other (Commission (I.R.S. Employer jurisdiction of incorporation) File No.) Identification No.)

1603 LBJ Freeway, Suite 800 Dallas, Texas 75234

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code 469-522-4200

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))

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

(d) On October 25, 2011, the Board of Directors of American Realty Investors, Inc. (the "Company" or the "Issuer" or the "Registrant") elected Sharon Hunt, age 68, as a Director to fill a vacancy on the Board of Directors created by the resignation of Martha Stephens. Ms. Hunt is currently retired and is a licensed realtor in the Dallas, Texas area. She was a Director of the Company and Transcontinental Realty Investors, Inc. ("TCI") from February 2004 until January 31, 2011 when she resigned. Also, on October 25, 2011, Ms. Hunt was elected as a member of the Audit Committee, Nominating and Governance Committee and Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors of the Company. Ms. Hunt has also been elected as a member of the Board of Directors of TCI (on October 25, 2011), a Nevada corporation which has its Common Stock listed and traded on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") and Income Opportunity Realty Investors, Inc., a Nevada corporation ("IOT") which has its Common Stock listed and traded on the American Stock Exchange ("AMEX").

With the election of Ms. Hunt to the Board of Directors of the Company and as the third member of the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors, the Company has a majority of independent directors and at least three individuals who are independent directors who constitute the Audit Committee, the Compensation Committee and the Governance and Nominating Committee of the Board of Directors.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly-caused this Current Report on Form 8-K to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly-authorized.

Dated: October 26, 2011 AMERICAN REALTY INVESTORS, INC.

By: /s/ Gene S. Bertcher

Gene S. Bertcher, Executive Vice President

and Chief Financial Officer