TRICO BANCSHARES / Form 8-K December 11, 2012

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):

December 7, 2012

TriCo Bancshares

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

California 0-10661 94-2792841

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

63 Constitution Drive, Chico, California (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant s telephone number, including area code: (530) 898-0300

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))

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Item 8.01: Other Events

The Board of Directors of TriCo Bancshares (NASDAQ: TCBK), parent company of Tri Counties Bank, declared a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.09 (nine cents) per share at its meeting held on December 7, 2012. The dividend is payable on December 31, 2012 to holders of record at the close of business on December 20, 2012.

Item 9.01: Financial Statements and Exhibits

- (d) Exhibits
 - 99.1 Press release dated December 10, 2012

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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 thereunto duly authorized.

TRICO BANCSHARES

Date: December 10, 2012

/s/ Thomas J. Reddish Thomas J. Reddish, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)