## FORM 4

### UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: 3235-0287 Estimated average burden hours per response 0.5

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Sellers William R.</u> |   |  |   |        | 2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol bluebird bio, Inc. [ BLUE ] |       |   |                      |  |        |                    | Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)     X Director 10% Owner |                |  |   |  |                              |   |                                       |
|--|---|--|---|--------|--|-------|---|----------------------|--|--------|--------------------|---|----------------|--|---|--|------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 60 BINNEY STREET                           |   |  |   |        | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 11/11/2021                    |       |   |                      |  |        |                    |   | Officer below) | (give title                                    |   | Other (s<br>below)   | specify                      |   |                                       |
| (Street) CAMBR (City)  |   | 1A<br>State)                               | 02142<br>(Zip)  |        | 4. If  | f Ame | ndme  | nt, Date o           | f Original F   | iled ( | Month/Day          | r/Year)   |                | 6. Inc<br>Line)                                |   | ed by One<br>led by More   | Reporti                      | ng Persor   | 1                                     |
|  |   | Tal  | ole I - Nor   | -Deriv | ative  | e Se  | curi  | ties Ac              | quired, [  | Disp   | osed of            | , or Be   | nefi           | cially   | Owned   |  |                              |   |                                       |
| Date   |   |  |   | Date   |  |       | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) |                      | Code (Instr.   |        |                    |   |                | nd Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned Followi |   | 6. Owner<br>Form: D<br>(D) or Ir<br>(I) (Insti   | Direct<br>Indirect<br>tr. 4) | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership               |                                       |
|  |   |  |   |        |  |       |   |                      | Code   | v      | Amount             | (A)<br>(D)  | or F           | Price  | Reported<br>Transacti<br>(Instr. 3 a                | ion(s)   |                              |   | (Instr. 4)                            |
| Common Stock <sup>(1)(2)(3)</sup> 11/11                            |   |  |   |        | /202   | 21    |   |                      | J  |        | 657                | A   |                | \$ <mark>0</mark>                              | 3,6   | 501  | Ι                            | )   |                                       |
| Common Stock <sup>(2)(3)(4)</sup> 11/11                            |   |  |   | /202   | /2021  |       | J   |                      | 0  | A      |                    | \$ <mark>0</mark>   | 3,6            | 501  | Ι   |  |                              |   |                                       |
|  |   |  | Table II - I  |        |  |       |   |                      | uired, Di<br>, options   |        |                    |   |                |  | Owned   |  |                              |   |                                       |
| 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<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) |        | 4.<br>Transaction<br>Code (Instr.<br>8)  |       | Derivative  |                      | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |        |                    | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative Secur<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |                | curity   | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) | 9. Number of<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported | ly D                         | 0.<br>wnership<br>orm:<br>irect (D)<br>r Indirect<br>) (Instr. 4) | Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|  |   |  |   | C      | ode  | v     | (A)   | (D)                  | Date<br>Exercisab  |        | Expiration<br>Date | Title   | or<br>Nu<br>of | nount<br>mber<br>ares                          |   | Transactio<br>(Instr. 4)   | on(s)                        |   |                                       |
| Stock<br>Option<br>(right to                                       |   |  |   |        |  |       |   |                      |  |        |                    |   |                |  |   |  |                              |   |                                       |
| buy)   | \$52.36 <sup>(5)</sup>  | 11/11/2021                                 |   |        | D  |       |   | 8,000 <sup>(5)</sup> | (5)  | 0      | 9/25/2029          | Commo:<br>Stock   | 7,             | 876  | \$0   | 7,876  |                              | D   |                                       |
| Stock<br>Option<br>(right to<br>buy)                               | \$52.36 <sup>(5)</sup><br>\$31.93 <sup>(6)</sup>                      | 11/11/2021                                 |   |        | D D  |       |   | 3,000 <sup>(5)</sup> | (5)  | +      | 9/25/2029          |   | ,              | 953  | <b>\$</b> 0<br><b>\$</b> 0                          | 7,876<br>2,953   |                              | D<br>D  |                                       |

# **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. Represents restricted stock units awarded to the reporting person prior to the separation (the "Separation") of 2seventy bio, Inc. ("2seventy") from bluebird bio, Inc. ("bluebird"). In connection with the Separation, the restricted stock units underlying this award were adjusted pursuant to the Employee Matters Agreement by and between 2seventy and bluebird (the "EMA") such that the reporting person received restricted stock units of 2seventy to preserve the value associated with the original restricted stock unit award (see footnotes 2 and 3). This restricted stock unit award was originally granted on September 25, 2019 and vests ratably over three years in annual installments commencing on September 25, 2019.
- 2. bluebird equity awards granted prior to January 1, 2021 were converted into equity awards of both bluebird and 2seventy. The number of shares underlying the converted bluebird equity awards was determined by multiplying the number of shares underlying the existing bluebird equity award by a fraction, the numerator of which is the volume-weighted average trading price of bluebird common stock (trading "regular" way") on the five trading days immediately prior to the distribution date (the "bluebird Pre-Distribution VWAP") and the denominator of which is the sum of (1) the volume-weighted average trading price of 2seventy common stock (trading "regular way") on the five trading days immediately following the distribution date multiplied by the distribution ratio and (2) the volume-weighted average trading price of bluebird bio common stock (trading "regular way") on the five trading days immediately following the distribution date (the "bluebird Post-Distribution VWAP").
- 3. bluebird equity awards granted on or after January 1, 2021, such equity awards continued as bluebird equity awards, subject to adjustment. The adjusted number of shares of bluebird common stock underlying such equity awards is equal to the number of shares of bluebird common stock subject to the equity award immediately prior to the distribution multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which is the bluebird Pre-Distribution VWAP and the denominator of which is the bluebird Post-Distribution VWAP.
- 4. Represents restricted stock units awarded to the reporting person prior to the Separation. In connection with the Separation, the restricted stock units underlying this award were adjusted pursuant to the EMA to preserve the value associated with the original restricted stock unit award (see footnotes 2 and 3). This restricted stock unit award was originally granted on June 15, 2021 and vests 100% on the earlier of June 15, 2022 or the date of the next annual meeting of stockholders.
- 5. Represents options to purchase bluebird common stock awarded to the reporting person prior to the Separation. In connection with the Separation, the shares of common stock underlying this award were adjusted pursuant to the EMA such that the reporting person received options to purchase shares of 2seventy common stock to preserve the value associated with the original award (see footnotes 2 and 3). This option was originally granted on September 25, 2019 and vests ratably over three years in annual installments commencing on September 25, 2019. The exercise price of the option has been adjusted based on the conversion ratio described in footnotes 2 and 3.
- 6. Represents options to purchase bluebird common stock awarded to the reporting person prior to the Separation. In connection with the Separation, the shares of common stock underlying this award were adjusted pursuant to the EMA such that the reporting person received options to purchase shares of 2seventy common stock to preserve the value associated with the original award (see footnotes 2 and 3). This option was originally granted on June 18, 2020 and is fully vested and exercisable as of the date hereof. The exercise price of the option has been adjusted based on the conversion ratio described in footnotes 2
- 7. Represents options to purchase bluebird common stock awarded to the reporting person prior to the Separation. In connection with the Separation, the shares of common stock underlying this award were adjusted pursuant to the EMA to preserve the value associated with the original award (see footnotes 2 and 3). This option was originally granted on June 15, 2021 and vests 100% on the earlier of June 15, 2022 or the date of the next annual meeting of stockholders. The exercise price of the option has been adjusted based on the conversion ratio described in footnotes 2 and 3.

### Remarks:

/s/ Helen Fu, Attorney-in-Fact 11/17/2021

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

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

- \* 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

| Persons who respond to the co | ollection of information contained | d in this form are not required | to respond unless the form d | isplays a currently valid OMB N | lumber. |
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