

HEARTLAND FINANCIAL USA INC  
 Form 4  
 February 13, 2017

**FORM 4**

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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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 OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
 COX JOHN W JR

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 HEARTLAND FINANCIAL USA INC [HTLF]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 1398 CENTRAL AVE.  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 02/10/2017

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)

DUBUQUE, IA 52001

(City) (State) (Zip)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect or Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D) Code V Amount (D) Price                                |   |  |  |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 6,424.569 <sup>(1)</sup>  | D  |  |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 20,865.3395 <sup>(1)</sup>  | I  | Control Shareholder <sup>(2)</sup>                       |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 2,497.1991 <sup>(1)</sup>   | I  | Control Shareholder <sup>(3)</sup>                       |
| Common Stock                    | 02/10/2017                           |  | S                              | 2,497.1991 D  | \$ 0 <sup>(1)</sup> 45.6  | I  | Control Shareholder <sup>(3)</sup>                       |



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- (4) Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of Issuer's common stock.
- (5) These restricted stock units are granted under the 2012 Long-term Incentive Plan. These shares are subject to a one (1) year vesting schedule.

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.