

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 Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (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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Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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(9-02)

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Director Restricted Stock Unit	(4)					(5)	(5)	Common Stock	1,470

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
COX JOHN W JR 1398 CENTRAL AVE. DUBUQUE, IA 52001	X			

## Signatures

/s/ John W. Cox, Jr. 02/13/2017

\*\*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) These shares participate in a Dividend Reinvestment Plan.
- (2) These shares are held by John W. Cox Jr. Inc. Reporting person is managing, controlling shareholder.
- (3) These shares are held by McJoyce, Inc. Reporting person is managing, controlling shareholder.

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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.