#### HEARTLAND FINANCIAL USA INC

Form 4

March 14, 2017

# FORM 4

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

**OMB** 3235-0287 Number:

**OMB APPROVAL** 

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES** 

January 31, Expires: 2005 Estimated average

0.5

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response...

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

1(b).

Stock

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*

FOX BRIA	N	Symbo HEA	ler Name <b>and</b> 1 RTLAND FI HTLF]				Issuer (Che	eck all applicable	e)
(Last) 1398 CENT		(Mont	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/11/2017			Director 10% Owner Nother (give title Other (specify below) EVP, Operations			
	(Street)		mendment, Dat Month/Day/Year)		l		6. Individual or Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by Form filed by	One Reporting Pe	erson
DUBUQUI (City)		(Zip) T.					Person		
(City)	(State)	Ta	ible I - Non-De	erivative S	Secur	ities Acc	quired, Disposed	of, or Beneficial	lly Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)		Code	4. Securion(A) or D (D) (Instr. 3,	ispose	d of	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)
Common Stock							2,000	D (1)	
Common Stock							8,969.2379 (2)	I	Trust (3)
Common	03/11/2017		M	326	A	\$ 50.2	9,295.2379	I	Trust (3)

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

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(2)

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#### number.

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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	onof De Se Ae (A D: of (In	ferivecur ecur cqui A) or sispo f (D)	ative ities ired rosed ) . 3, 4,	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A	<b>A</b> )	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
2017 Time-Based Restricted Stock	<u>(4)</u>							<u>(5)</u>	<u>(5)</u>	Common Stock	896
2017 Performance Based Restricted Stock (3-year performance)	<u>(4)</u>							<u>(6)</u>	<u>(6)</u>	Common Stock	447
2017 Performance Based Restricted Stock (1-year performance)	<u>(4)</u>							<u>(7)</u>	<u>(7)</u>	Common Stock	896
2016 Time-Based Restricted Stock	<u>(4)</u>							<u>(8)</u>	<u>(8)</u>	Common Stock	877
2016 Performance Based Restricted Stock (3-year performance)	<u>(4)</u>							<u>(9)</u>	<u>(9)</u>	Common Stock	698
2016 Performance Based Restricted	<u>(4)</u>							(10)	(10)	Common Stock	1,465

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Stock (1-year performance)								
2015 Time-Based Restricted Stock	<u>(4)</u>				<u>(11)</u>	<u>(11)</u>	Common Stock	1,750
2015 Performance Based Restricted Stock	<u>(4)</u>				<u>(12)</u>	<u>(12)</u>	Common Stock	1,225
2014 Time-Based Restricted Stock	<u>(4)</u>				<u>(13)</u>	(13)	Common Stock	1,470
2014 Time-Based Restricted Stock	<u>(4)</u>	03/11/2017	F	490	<u>(13)</u>	(13)	Common Stock	980
2013 Time-Based Restricted Stock	(4)				(14)	(14)	Common Stock	490

# **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
•	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
FOX BRIAN							
1398 CENTRAL AVE			EVP, Operations				
DUBUQUE, IA 52001							

## **Signatures**

/s/ Brian Fox 03/13/2017

\*\*Signature of 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 are held in an IRA.
- (2) These shares participate in a Dividend Reinvestment Plan.
- (3) These shares held by Fox Revocable Trust dated 11/19/2001, Brian J Fox and Brenda J Fox, Trustees
- (4) Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of Issuer's common stock.
- (5) Of these restricted stock units, 1/3 vest in 01-2018, 1/3 vest in 01-2019 and 1/3 vest in 01-2020.

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- (6) These restricted stock units vest in 2020 if certain performance measures are achieved by the Issuer.
- (7) These restricted stock units vest on 1-19-2020 if certain performance measures are achieved by the Issuer.
- (8) Of these restricted stock units, 1/3 vest on 1-19-2017, 1/3 vest on 1-19-2018, and 1/3 vest on 1-19-2019.
- (9) These restricted stock units vest in 2019 if certain performance measures are achieved by the Issuer.
- (10) These restricted stock units vest on 1-19-2019 if certain performance measures are achieved by the Issuer.
- (11) Of these restricted stock units, 1/3 vest on 1-20-2018, 1/3 vest on 1-20-2019, and 1/3 vest on 1-20-2020.
- (12) These restricted stock units vest on 1-18-2018 if certain performance measures are achieved by the Issuer.
- (13) Of these restricted stock units, 1/3 vest on 3-11-2017, 1/3 vest on 3-11-2018, and 1/3 vest on 3-11-2019.
- (14) Of these restricted stock units, 1/3 vest on 1-22-2016, 1/3 vest on 1-22-2017, and 1/3 vest on 1-22-2018.

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.