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HEARTLAND FINANCIAL USA INC Form 4 March 10, 2017 OMB APPROVAL FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OMB 3235-0287 Washington, D.C. 20549 Number: Check this box January 31, Expires: if no longer 2005 STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF subject to Estimated average **SECURITIES** Section 16. burden hours per Form 4 or response... 0.5 Form 5 Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction 1(b). (Print or Type Responses) 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading WALTER FRANK E Issuer Symbol HEARTLAND FINANCIAL USA (Check all applicable) INC [HTLF] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction Director 10% Owner X_Officer (give title Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below) below) 1398 CENTRAL AVE 03/08/2017 **EVP** Commercial Banking (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting DUBUQUE, IA 52001 Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Securities Form: Direct Indirect (Instr. 3) any Code Disposed of (D) Beneficially (D) or Beneficial (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Indirect (I) Ownership (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Owned Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price Common 15,798 D (1) Stock

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

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 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. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	of	(Month/Day, ve is i	Date	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Pr. Deriv Secu (Inst
				Code V	(A) (D	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
2017 Time-Based Restricted Stock	(2)					<u>(3)</u>	<u>(3)</u>	Common Stock	775	
2017 Performance Based Restricted Stock (3-year performance)	(2)					<u>(4)</u>	(4)	Common Stock	387	
2017 Performance Based Restricted Stock (1-year performance)	(2)					<u>(5)</u>	(5)	Common Stock	775	
2016 Time-Based Restricted Stock	(2)					<u>(6)</u>	<u>(6)</u>	Common Stock	723	
2016 Performance Based Restricted Stock (3-year performance)	<u>(2)</u>					<u>(7)</u>	(7)	Common Stock	575	
2016 Performance Based Restricted Stock (1-year performance)	<u>(2)</u>					<u>(8)</u>	(8)	Common Stock	1,207	
2015	(2)					<u>(9)</u>	<u>(9)</u>	Common	1,325	

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Time-Based Restricted Stock				Stock	
2015 Performance Based Restricted Stock	<u>(2)</u>	<u>(10)</u>	<u>(10)</u>	Common Stock	928
2014 Time-Based Restricted Stock	(2)	<u>(11)</u>	(11)	Common Stock	1,325
2013 Time-Based Restricted Stock	<u>(2)</u>	(12)	(12)	Common Stock	490

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
WALTER FRANK E 1398 CENTRAL AVE DUBUQUE, IA 52001			EVP Commercial Banking				

Signatures

/s/ Frank E. 03/10/2017 Walter Date

**Signature of Reporting Person

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).
- Of these shares 9,558 shares are held in Jt. Ten. (1)
- (2) Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of Issuer's common stock.
- Of these restricted stock units, 1/3 vest in 01-2018, 1/3 vest in 01-2019 and 1/3 vest in 01-2020. (3)
- These restricted stock units vest in 2020 if certain performance measures are achieved by the Issuer. (4)
- These restricted stock units vest on 1-19-2020 if certain performance measures are achieved by the Issuer. (5)
- (6) 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.
- (7) These restricted stock units vest in 2019 if certain performance measures are achieved by the Issuer.
- These restricted stock units vest on 1-19-2019 if certain performance measures are achieved by the Issuer. (8)
- 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. (9)
- (10) These restricted stock units vest on 1-18-2018 if certain performance measures are achieved by the Issuer.

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- (11) 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.
- (12) 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.

Remarks:

added 2017 Performance Based RSU grant awards

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.