#### MILLER MELVIN E

Form 4

January 19, 2012

## FORM 4

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

**OMB APPROVAL** 

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obligations

### 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

may continue. 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 MILLER MELVIN 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) 1398 CENTRAL AVE. 01/10/2012 Chief Investment Officer (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line)

#### DUBUQUE, IA 52001

| (City)                               | (State)                                 | (Zip) Tab   | le I - Non-                            | Derivative | Secu             | rities Acc  | quired, Disposed   | of, or Benefic  | ially Owned               |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|------------|------------------|-------------|--|---|---------------------------|
| 1.Title of<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3.<br>Transactic<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | ,          |                  |             | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |                           |
|                                      |   |   | Code V                                 | Amount     | (A)<br>or<br>(D) | Price       | Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)  | (Instr. 4)  |                           |
| Common<br>Stock                      | 01/10/2012                              |   | S                                      | 3,514      | D                | \$<br>16.36 | 0 (6)  | D (1)   |                           |
| Common<br>Stock                      | 01/17/2012                              |   | A                                      | 5,476      | A                | \$ 0        | 25,212 (4) (5)   | D   |                           |
| Common<br>Stock                      |   |   |  |            |                  |             | 6,230  | I   | IRA                       |
| Common<br>Stock                      |   |   |  |            |                  |             | 7,680  | I   | Retirement<br>Fund        |
| Common<br>Stock                      |   |   |  |            |                  |             | 3,899 (3)  | I   | HRT<br>Retirement<br>Plan |

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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

| 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 Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4.<br>Transactic<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 5. onNumber 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<br>Underlying Securities<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |  |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--------------------|---|--|
|   |   |                                      |   | Code V                                 | (A) (D)   | Date<br>Exercisable                                      | Expiration<br>Date | Title   | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares |
| Non-Qualified<br>Stock Option<br>(Right to Buy      | \$ 11.84  |                                      |   |  |   | (2)  | 01/21/2013         | Common<br>Stock   | 4,500                                  |
| Non-Qualified<br>Stock Option<br>(Right to Buy      | \$ 19.48  |                                      |   |  |   | (2)  | 01/20/2014         | Common<br>Stock   | 3,000                                  |
| Non-Qualified<br>Stock Option<br>(Right to Buy)     | \$ 21   |                                      |   |  |   | (2)  | 02/10/2015         | Common<br>Stock   | 5,000                                  |
| Non-Qualified<br>Stock Option<br>(Right to Buy      | \$ 21.6   |                                      |   |  |   | (2)  | 02/06/2016         | Common<br>Stock   | 1,500                                  |
| Non-Qualified<br>Stock Option<br>(Right to Buy)     | \$ 29.65  |                                      |   |  |   | (2)  | 01/16/2017         | Common<br>Stock   | 1,500                                  |
| Non-Qualified<br>Stock Option<br>(Right to Buy)     | \$ 18.6   |                                      |   |  |   | (2)  | 01/24/2018         | Common<br>Stock   | 2,500                                  |

# **Reporting Owners**

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | eporting Owner Name / Address |           |         |       |  |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|---------|-------|--|
|                                | Director                      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |  |

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MILLER MELVIN E 1398 CENTRAL AVE. DUBUQUE, IA 52001

Chief Investment Officer

## **Signatures**

/s/ Melvin E. 01/19/2012 Miller

\*\*Signature of Date
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).
- (1) Shares held jointly with reporting person's spouse.
- (2) Represents options to buy granted under the Company's Stock Option Plan, a Rule 16(b)(3) plan, which options vest one-third per year beginning on the 3rd anniversary of date of grant.
- (3) Represents shares allocated to the reporting person's account under the Heartland Financial USA, Inc. Retirement Plan as a result of the Pension Plan Protection Act of 2006.
- (4) Includes 10,338 Restricted Stock Units (RSU). Each RSU represents the right to receive one share of common stock. The grant vests in three equal installments on the third, fourth and fifth anniversaries of the grant date.
- (5) Includes 2,738 shares of Performance Based Restricted Stock.
- **(6)** Double line entry....see next line for total.

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.

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