FULLER LYNN B

Form 4

January 19, 2012

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

OMB APPROVAL

Expires:

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

January 31, 2005

0.5

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if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations

Check this box

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 See Instruction

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

may continue.

FULLER LYNN B			Symbol HEARTLAND FINANCIAL USA INC [HTLF]				JSA	Issuer (Check all applicable)			
(Last) 1398 CENT	(Last) (First) (Middle) 1398 CENTRAL AVE.			3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 01/17/2012				_X_ Director 10% Owner Specify below) Delow) President & CEO			
DUBUQUI	(Street) E, IA 52001		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)				6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person				
(City)	(State) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned										
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Dat (Month/Day/Year)		Date, if	3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securit or(A) or Di (D) (Instr. 3, 4	sposed	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	01/17/2012			A	16,500	A	\$0	34,500 (7) (10)	D		
Common Stock								578,862 (11)	I	As Trustee (2)	
Common Stock								21,000	I	Partnership	
Common Stock								6,000 (1)	I	By Spouse	
Common Stock								2,142.233 <u>(1)</u> (5)	I	By Son (8)	

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Common Stock	123,078 (1)	I	As Trustee (3)
Common Stock	673.445 <u>(1)</u> <u>(5)</u>	I	By Son (9)
Common Stock	12,188 (6)	I	HTLF Retirement Plan

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

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SEC 1474

(9-02)

 $\label{thm:convergence} \begin{tabular}{ll} Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned \\ (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) \end{tabular}$

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. Transacti Code (Instr. 8)	5. orNumber of Derivativ 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)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Non-Qualified Stock Option (Right To Buy)	\$ 19.48					<u>(4)</u>	01/20/2014	Common Stock	15,000
Non-Qualified Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 21					<u>(4)</u>	02/10/2015	Common Stock	15,000
Non-Qualified Stock Option (Right to Buy	\$ 21.6					<u>(4)</u>	02/06/2016	Common Stock	10,000
Non-Qualified Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 29.65					<u>(4)</u>	01/16/2017	Common Stock	10,000
Non-Qualified Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 18.6					<u>(4)</u>	01/24/2018	Common Stock	8,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

FULLER LYNN B

1398 CENTRAL AVE. X President & CEO

DUBUQUE, IA 52001

Signatures

/s/ Lynn B. 01/19/2012 Fuller

**Signature of Reporting Person

Explanation of Responses:

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).

Date

- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of these securities, and this report shall not be deemed to be an admission that the reporting person is the beneficial owner of such securities for purposes of Section 16 or any other purpose.
- (2) Shares held by Lynn B. Fuller Trust Under Agreement dated 5-7-96, Lynn B. Fuller Trustee
- (3) Shares held by the Emma O. Fuller Trust dated 9-3-85 Dubuque Bank & Trust, L.S. Fuller & L.B. Fuller, co-trustees
- (4) 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.
- (5) These shares participate in a Dividend Reinvestment Plan.
- (6) 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.
- (7) Includes 26,250 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.
- (8) These shares are registered to Lynn H. Fuller.
- (9) These shares are registered to Thomas John Fuller.
- (10) Includes 8,250 shares of Performance Based Restricted Stock.
- (11) Includes 65 shares issued as an Employee Service Award.

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.

Reporting Owners 3