FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| OMB APPROVAL             |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number:              | 3235-0287 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Estimated average hurden |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See

| <ul> <li>obligations may continue. See</li> <li>Instruction 1(b).</li> </ul> |                         |                  | Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934               | hours per r                                    | hours per response: 0. |                                 |  |
|--|-------------------------|------------------|--|--|------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
|  | <i>,</i> .              |                  | or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940                               |  |                        |                                 |  |
| 1. Name and Addi<br>WELCH M  | ress of Reporting SCOTT | Person*          | 2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol  LAKELAND FINANCIAL CORP [ LKFN ] | 5. Relationship<br>(Check all appl<br>X Direct | icable)                | erson(s) to Issuer<br>10% Owner |  |
| (Last) 6 LONGWOO   | (First)                 | (Middle)         | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 07/29/2011                          | Office<br>below                                | r (give title<br>)     | Other (specify below)           |  |
| (Street) ELKHART   | IN                      | 46516            | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                             | Line) X Form Form                              | <b>,</b>               |                                 |  |
| (City)   | (State)                 | (Zip)            |  |  |                        |                                 |  |
|  |                         | Table I - Non-De | arivative Securities Acquired Disnosed of or Renef                                   | icially Owner                                  | Ч                      |                                 |  |

## 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transaction 2A. Deemed 4. Securities Acquired (A) or 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature Transaction Code (Instr. 8) Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Execution Date. Securities Form: Direct of Indirect (Month/Day/Year) if any Beneficially (D) or Indirect Beneficial (Month/Day/Year) Owned Following Ownership (I) (Instr. 4) Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) (A) or (D) Price Code Amount (Instr. 3 and 4) Common Stock 07/29/2011 A 500 A \$0 51,220 D Common Stock By LLP 3,000 Ι By 1,930 Common Stock T **Spouse**

## 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<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) |   | Expiration Date |     | 7. Title and Amount<br>of Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative Security<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |                    | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) | 9. Number of<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 4) | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |   |  |
|---|---|--|---|---|---|-----------------|-----|---|--------------------|---|--|--|--|---|--|
|   |   |  |   | Code  | v | (A)             | (D) | Date<br>Exercisable   | Expiration<br>Date | Title   | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares   |  |  |   |  |
| Phantom<br>Stock                                    | (1)   |  |   |   |   |                 |     | (3)   | (2)                | Common<br>Stock                                     | 17,550   |  | 17,550   | D |  |
| Stock<br>Options<br>(Right to<br>Buy)               | \$17.185  |  |   |   |   |                 |     | 12/09/2008  | 12/09/2013         | Common<br>Stock                                     | 1,000  |  | 1,000  | D |  |
| Stock<br>Options<br>(Right to<br>Buy)               | \$24.05   |  |   |   |   |                 |     | 05/14/2013  | 05/14/2018         | Common<br>Stock                                     | 1,000  |  | 1,000  | D |  |

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. Each phantom stock unit exersises into 1 share of Common Stock.
- 2. Phantom shares expire after the directors' retirement as a Board member.
- 3. Phantom stock is exercisable after the directors' retirement as a Board member.

Teresa A. Bartman, Attorney-

08/01/2011

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

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

- $^{\star}$  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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.