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AMERUS GROUP CO/IA

Form 4

February 14, 2006

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

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

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

burden hours per response...

Estimated average

See Instruction

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

0.5

1(b).

Stock

Stock

Common

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and a CLARK B	Symbol	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol AMERUS GROUP CO/IA [AMH]				5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			
(I4)						(Check all applicable)			
(Last) 699 WALN 2000	(Month	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/10/2006				DirectorX Officer (give below)	e titleOthe	Owner er (specify	
		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)				EVP, Chief Product Officer 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person			
DES MOIN						Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			
(City)	(State)	(Zip) Ta	ble I - Non-	Derivative Se	ecuritio	es Acqu	ired, Disposed of	f, or Beneficial	ly Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	e 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securitie or(A) or Disp (Instr. 3, 4 a	osed of and 5) (A) or	f(D)	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	02/10/2006	02/10/2006	Code V A	Amount 12,000 (1)	(D)	Price \$ 0	23,681	D	
Common Stock	02/10/2006	02/10/2006	F	2,635.51	D	\$ 60.3	21,045.49	D	
Common Stock	02/10/2006	02/10/2006	D	0.49	D	\$ 60.3	21,045	D	

60.3

802.933

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

By 401(k)

Plan

Ι

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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 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. Number of orDerivative 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
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 60.3	02/10/2006	02/10/2006	A	22,000	(2)	02/10/2016	Common Stock	22,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

CLARK BRIAN J 699 WALNUT STREET SUITE 2000 DES MOINES, IA 50309

EVP, Chief Product Officer

Signatures

/s/ Jeananne M. Celander, attorney-in-fact for Mr.
Clark

02/14/2006

**Signature of Reporting 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).
- The shares were awarded on February 10 2006 upon the determination that performance criteria applicable to the performance shares were met. The award is payable in 12,000 shares of unrestricted stock, 8,000 shares of which were issued on February 10, 2006 and 4,000 shares of which will be issued as soon as administratively feasible following the February 2007 Human Resource and Compensation committee meeting.
- (2) Grant of option exempt under Rule 16b-3. The option vests in five equal annual installments beginning on February 10, 2007. Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

Reporting Owners 2

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