

AMERUS GROUP CO/IA

Form 4

February 14, 2006

FORM 4**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2005
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Check this box
 if no longer
 subject to
 Section 16.
 Form 4 or
 Form 5
 obligations
 may continue.
See Instruction
 1(b).

**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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
LITTLEFIELD CHRISTOPHER J

(Last) (First) (Middle)

699 WALNUT STREET, SUITE
 2000

(Street)

DES MOINES, IA 50309

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading
 Symbol

AMERUS GROUP CO/IA [AMH]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)

02/10/2006

4. If Amendment, Date Original
 Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to
 Issuer

(Check all applicable)

____ Director ____ 10% Owner
☒ Officer (give title below) ____ Other (specify below)

EVP & General Counsel

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check
 Applicable Line)
☒ Form filed by One Reporting Person
 ____ Form filed by More than One Reporting
 Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	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)
			Code	V	Amount	(D)	Price

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

**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 control
 number.**

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	2. Conversion or Exercise	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	4. Transaction Code	5. Number of Derivative Securities	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)
---------------------------------------	------------------------------	---	---	------------------------	--	--	---

Edgar Filing: AMERUS GROUP CO/IA - Form 4

(Instr. 3)	Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	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	10,000		<u>(1)</u>		02/10/2016		Common Stock	10,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
	Director 10% Owner Officer Other
LITTLEFIELD CHRISTOPHER J 699 WALNUT STREET SUITE 2000 DES MOINES, IA 50309	EVP & General Counsel

Signatures

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

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).

(1) 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.

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.