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AMERUS GROUP CO/IA

Form 4 April 04, 2006

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB

Number:

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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

may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and A WITTERN I	Symbol	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol AMERUS GROUP CO/IA [AMH]					5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer				
(Last) 699 WALNU 2000	iddle) 3. Date of (Month/D	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 04/03/2006				(Check all applicable) _X_ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)					
DES MOIN	(Street) ES, IA 50309		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				
(City)		^{Zip)} Tabl	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Ac					Person equired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned			
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)		3. Transaction	(A) or		or O)	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 Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4)			
Common Stock	04/03/2006	04/03/2006	A	332	A	\$0	9,110	D			
Common Stock							500	I	By Spouse		

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

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

	1. Title of Derivative	2. Conversion	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if	4. Transacti	5. orNumber	6. Date Exerc Expiration D		7. Title Amount		8. Price of Derivative	9. Nu Deriv
Security (Instr. 3)		or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	(Monan Day) Teal)	any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	of	(Month/Day/Year) ve es d		Underly Securiti	rlying	Security (Instr. 5)	Secur Bene Owne Follo Repo Trans (Instr
					Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title N	Amount or Number of Shares		

Reporting Owners

Relationships Reporting Owner Name / Address

> 10% Owner Officer Other Director

WITTERN F A JR 699 WALNUT STREET **SUITE 2000** DES MOINES, IA 50309

X

Signatures

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

04/04/2006

**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).

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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