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AMERUS GROUP CO/IA

Form 4 April 04, 2005

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION **OMB**

3235-0287 Number:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

Washington, D.C. 20549

January 31, Expires: 2005

OMB APPROVAL

Form 4 or Form 5

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

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	(Month/D	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 04/01/2005				_X_ Director Officer (gives		e) % Owner her (specify	
DES MOIN		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) (Zip) 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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	4. SecurionAcquired Disposed (Instr. 3,	l (A) o l of (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	04/01/2005	04/01/2005	A	427	A	\$0	7,791	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	(Month/Day/Tear)	any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	of	(Month/Day/		Underly Securiti (Instr. 3	ying ies	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

Reporting Owner Name / Address							
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			

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

X

Signatures

/s/ Jeananne M. Celander, attorney-in-fact for Mr. 04/04/2005 Wittern

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Relationships

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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