AMERUS GROUP CO/IA

Form 4 July 06, 2005

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

January 31, 2005

3235-0287

0.5

Estimated average burden hours per

Expires:

response...

OMB APPROVAL

if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

Check this box

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).

Stock

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading PESTER JACK C Issuer Symbol AMERUS GROUP CO/IA [AMH] (Check all applicable) (First) (Middle) (Last) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) X_ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify 699 WALNUT STREET, SUITE 07/01/2005 below) 2000 4. If Amendment, Date Original (Street) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting DES MOINES, IA 50309 (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of TransactionAcquired (A) or Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Securities Form: Direct Indirect (Instr. 3) Code Disposed of (D) Beneficially (D) or Beneficial (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Owned Indirect (I) Ownership Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price Common 07/01/2005 07/01/2005 \$0 Α 450 Α 15,367 D

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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

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1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transacti Code (Instr. 8)			ate	7. Title Amoun Under	nt of lying ities	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene
	Derivative Security				Securities Acquired			(Instr.	3 and 4)		Owne Follo
					(A) or Disposed						Repo Trans
					of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)						(Instr
					4, and 3)				Amount		
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	or Number of		
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
1 8	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
PESTER JACK C 699 WALNUT STREET SUITE 2000 DES MOINES, IA 50309	X						

Signatures

/s/ Jeananne M. Celander, attorney-in-fact for Mr.
Pester 07/06/2005

**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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