AMERUS GROUP CO/IA

Form 4

February 14, 2006

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB

OMB APPROVAL

Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

January 31, 2005

0.5

Estimated average

response...

burden hours per

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

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

AMERUS GROUP CO/IA [AMH]

Symbol

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

GODLASKY THOMAS C

		AMER	AMERUS GROUP CO/IA [AMH]			(Check all applicable)			
(Last) (First) (Middle) 699 WALNUT STREET, SUITE 2000		(Month/I	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/10/2006				_X_ Director 10% Owner _X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) President and COO		
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)	(City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned							ly 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. Securition(A) or Dis (Instr. 3, 4	posed	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	02/10/2006	02/10/2006	A	22,500 (1)	A	\$0	40,431.41	D	
Common Stock	02/10/2006	02/10/2006	F	4,867.5	D	\$ 60.3	35,563.91	D	
Common Stock	02/10/2006	02/10/2006	D	0.5	D	\$ 60.3	35,563.41	D	
Common Stock							13,830.69	I	By 401 (k) Plan
Common Stock							12,122	I	By Spouse

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

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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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of orDerivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed or (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	Expiration D (Month/Day	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	40,000	<u>(2)</u>	02/10/2016	Common Stock	40,000	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

GODLASKY THOMAS C 699 WALNUT STREET SUITE 2000

X

President and COO

DES MOINES, IA 50309

Signatures

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

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 22,500 of unrestricted stock, 15,000 shares of which were issued on February 10, 2006 and 7,500 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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