

AMERUS GROUP CO/IA

Form 4

February 14, 2006

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

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

## OMB APPROVAL

OMB  
Number: 3235-0287  
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2005  
Estimated average  
burden hours per  
response... 0.5

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
MCPHAIL GARY R

(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  
\_X\_ Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)

Pres&amp;CEO AmerUs Life/ILICO

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check  
Applicable Line)  
\_X\_ 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 (A) or (D)	Price	
Common Stock	02/10/2006	02/10/2006	A		14,100 (1)	A \$ 0	30,191 D
Common Stock	02/10/2006	02/10/2006	F		3,086.31	D \$ 60.3	27,104.69 D
Common Stock	02/10/2006	02/10/2006	D		0.69	D \$ 60.3	27,104 D
Common Stock							802.9321 I 401 (k) Plan

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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	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		22,000		<u>(2)</u>	02/10/2016	Common Stock	22,000

## Reporting Owners

### Reporting Owner Name / Address

### Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

MCPHAIL GARY R  
699 WALNUT STREET  
SUITE 2000  
DES MOINES, IA 50309

Pres&CEO AmerUs Life/ILICO

## Signatures

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

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) 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 14,100 shares of unrestricted stock, 9,400 shares of which were issued on February 10, 2006 and 4,700 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.

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