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Form 990  Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service	Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations) ▶ Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public ▶ Information about Form 990 and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990	OMB No 1545-0047 2015 Open to Public Inspection
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A For the 2015 calendar year, or tax year beginning 01-01-2015 , and ending 12-31-2015

B Check if applicable ☐ Address change ☐ Name change ☐ Initial return ☐ Final return/terminated ☐ Amended return ☐ Application pending	C Name of organization MERCHANTS EXCHANGE		D Employer identification number 93-0224840
	Doing business as		E Telephone number (503) 228-4361
	Number and street (or P O box if mail is not delivered to street address) 200 SW MARKET STREET SUITE 190	Room/suite	G Gross receipts \$ 1,824,697
	City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code PORTLAND, OR 97201		
	F Name and address of principal officer ELIZABETH WAINWRIGHT 200 SW MARKET STREET 190 PORTLAND, OR 97201		
I Tax-exempt status ☐ 501(c)(3) ☒ 501(c) (6) ☐ (insert no) ☐ 4947(a)(1) or ☐ 527		H(a) Is this a group return for subordinates? ☐ Yes ☒ No H(b) Are all subordinates included? ☐ Yes ☐ No If "No," attach a list (see instructions) H(c) Group exemption number ▶	
J Website: ▶ WWW.PDXMEX.COM			

Part I Summary

Activities & Governance	1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities TO BE THE LEADING PROVIDER OF INFORMATION AND RELATED SERVICES TO ALL STAKEHOLDERS OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM AND TO SUPPORT RELATED BUSINESS INTERESTS FOR DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN COMMERCE		
	2 Check this box ☐ if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets		
	3 Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)	3	13
	4 Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	4	13
	5 Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2015 (Part V, line 2a)	5	23
	6 Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	6	
	7a Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	7a	834,812
	b Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34	7b	-1,909
Revenue		Prior Year	Current Year
	8 Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	2,316,136	47,387
	9 Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	1,756,192	1,755,565
	10 Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	4,714	6,232
	11 Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	6,374	8,738
	12 Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	4,083,416	1,817,922
Expenses	13 Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1–3)	2,246,669	3,250
	14 Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)		0
	15 Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5–10)	1,309,581	1,349,119
	16a Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)		0
	b Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) ☐ 0		
	17 Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a–11d, 11f–24e)	475,296	416,592
	18 Total expenses Add lines 13–17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	4,031,546	1,768,961
	19 Revenue less expenses Subtract line 18 from line 12	51,870	48,961
Net Assets or Fund Balances		Beginning of Current Year	End of Year
	20 Total assets (Part X, line 16)	1,463,831	1,516,391
	21 Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	119,231	122,830
	22 Net assets or fund balances Subtract line 21 from line 20	1,344,600	1,393,561

Part II Signature Block

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here	*****			2016-05-11	
	Signature of officer			Date	
	ELIZABETH WAINWRIGHT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR				
	Type or print name and title				
Paid Preparer Use Only	Prnt/Type preparer's name MICHAEL W ENGLISH		Preparer's signature MICHAEL W ENGLISH		Date 2016-05-11
			Check ☐ if self-employed		PTIN P00383937
	Firm's name ▶ ROSTAD & ENGLISH CPA'S PC			Firm's EIN ▶ 20-0260950	
	Firm's address ▶ 9498 SW BARBUR BLVD STE 200 PORTLAND, OR 972195423			Phone no (503) 977-2266	

Part III

Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part III

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1

Briefly describe the organization's mission

TO BE THE LEADING PROVIDER OF INFORMATION AND RELATED SERVICES TO ALL STAKEHOLDERS OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM AND TO SUPPORT RELATED BUSINESS INTERESTS FOR DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN COMMERCE

2

Did the organization undertake any significant program services during the year which were not listed on the prior Form 990 or 990-EZ?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes," describe these new services on Schedule O

3

Did the organization cease conducting, or make significant changes in how it conducts, any program services?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes," describe these changes on Schedule O

4

Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations are required to report the amount of grants and allocations to others, the total expenses, and revenue, if any, for each program service reported

4a

(Code) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

PROVIDE COLUMBIA RIVER PORT SHIP ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE INFORMATION FOR APPROXIMATELY 23 MEMBERS AND INTERESTED PARTIES

4b

(Code) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

PROVIDE STATISTICS CONCERNING THE GRAIN INDUSTRY TO APPROXIMATELY 16 MEMBERS

4c

(Code) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

PROVIDE COLUMBIA RIVER INBOUND AND OUTBOUND VESSEL AND CARGO STATISTICS TO INTERESTED PARTIES APPROXIMATELY 51 MEMBERS SERVED

See Additional Data

4d

Other program services (Describe in Schedule O)

(Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4e

Total program service expenses

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules

	Yes	No
1 Is the organization described in section 501(c)(3) or 4947(a)(1) (other than a private foundation)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule A</i>	1	No
2 Is the organization required to complete <i>Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors</i> (see instructions)?	2	No
3 Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I</i>	3	No
4 Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization engage in lobbying activities, or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II</i>	4	
5 Is the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization that receives membership dues, assessments, or similar amounts as defined in Revenue Procedure 98-19? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III</i>	5	No
6 Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds or any similar funds or accounts for which donors have the right to provide advice on the distribution or investment of amounts in such funds or accounts? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part I</i> 	6	No
7 Did the organization receive or hold a conservation easement, including easements to preserve open space, the environment, historic land areas, or historic structures? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part II</i> 	7	No
8 Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III</i> 	8	No
9 Did the organization report an amount in Part X, line 21 for escrow or custodial account liability, serve as a custodian for amounts not listed in Part X, or provide credit counseling, debt management, credit repair, or debt negotiation services? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IV</i> 	9	No
10 Did the organization, directly or through a related organization, hold assets in temporarily restricted endowments, permanent endowments, or quasi-endowments? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part V</i> 	10	No
11 If the organization's answer to any of the following questions is "Yes," then complete Schedule D, Parts VI, VII, VIII, IX, or X as applicable		
a Did the organization report an amount for land, buildings, and equipment in Part X, line 10? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VI.</i> 	11a	Yes
b Did the organization report an amount for investments—other securities in Part X, line 12 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VII</i> 	11b	Yes
c Did the organization report an amount for investments—program related in Part X, line 13 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VIII</i> 	11c	No
d Did the organization report an amount for other assets in Part X, line 15 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IX</i> 	11d	No
e Did the organization report an amount for other liabilities in Part X, line 25? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X</i> 	11e	No
f Did the organization's separate or consolidated financial statements for the tax year include a footnote that addresses the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X</i> 	11f	No
12a Did the organization obtain separate, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI and XII</i> 	12a	No
b Was the organization included in consolidated, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? <i>If "Yes," and if the organization answered "No" to line 12a, then completing Schedule D, Parts XI and XII is optional</i> 	12b	No
13 Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule E</i>	13	No
14a Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the United States?	14a	No
b Did the organization have aggregate revenues or expenses of more than \$10,000 from grantmaking, fundraising, business, investment, and program service activities outside the United States, or aggregate foreign investments valued at \$100,000 or more? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts I and IV</i>	14b	No
15 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for any foreign organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts II and IV</i>	15	No
16 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of aggregate grants or other assistance to or for foreign individuals? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts III and IV</i>	16	No
17 Did the organization report a total of more than \$15,000 of expenses for professional fundraising services on Part IX, column (A), lines 6 and 11e? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part I</i> (see instructions)	17	No
18 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 total of fundraising event gross income and contributions on Part VIII, lines 1c and 8a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part II</i>	18	No
19 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 of gross income from gaming activities on Part VIII, line 9a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part III</i>	19	No
20a Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule H</i>	20a	No
b If "Yes" to line 20a, did the organization attach a copy of its audited financial statements to this return?	20b	

Part IV

Checklist of Required Schedules (continued)

21	Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to any domestic organization or domestic government on Part IX, column (A), line 1? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II</i>	21		No
22	Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for domestic individuals on Part IX, column (A), line 2? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III</i>	22		No
23	Did the organization answer "Yes" to Part VII, Section A, line 3, 4, or 5 about compensation of the organization's current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J</i>	23	Yes	
24a	Did the organization have a tax-exempt bond issue with an outstanding principal amount of more than \$100,000 as of the last day of the year, that was issued after December 31, 2002? <i>If "Yes," answer lines 24b through 24d and complete Schedule K. If "No," go to line 25a</i>	24a		No
b	Did the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception?	24b		
c	Did the organization maintain an escrow account other than a refunding escrow at any time during the year to defease any tax-exempt bonds?	24c		
d	Did the organization act as an "on behalf of" issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year?	24d		
25a	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Did the organization engage in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person during the year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I</i>	25a		
b	Is the organization aware that it engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person in a prior year, and that the transaction has not been reported on any of the organization's prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I</i>	25b		
26	Did the organization report any amount on Part X, line 5, 6, or 22 for receivables from or payables to any current or former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, or disqualified persons? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II</i>	26		No
27	Did the organization provide a grant or other assistance to an officer, director, trustee, key employee, substantial contributor or employee thereof, a grant selection committee member, or to a 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part III</i>	27		No
28	Was the organization a party to a business transaction with one of the following parties (see Schedule L, Part IV instructions for applicable filing thresholds, conditions, and exceptions)			
a	A current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i>	28a		No
b	A family member of a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i>	28b		No
c	An entity of which a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee (or a family member thereof) was an officer, director, trustee, or direct or indirect owner? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i>	28c		No
29	Did the organization receive more than \$25,000 in non-cash contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M</i>	29		No
30	Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M</i>	30		No
31	Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I</i>	31		No
32	Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part II</i>	32		No
33	Did the organization own 100% of an entity disregarded as separate from the organization under Regulations sections 301.7701-2 and 301.7701-3? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part I</i>	33		No
34	Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part II, III, or IV, and Part V, line 1</i>	34		No
35a	Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?	35a		No
b	If "Yes" to line 35a, did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2</i>	35b		
36	Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2</i>	36		
37	Did the organization conduct more than 5% of its activities through an entity that is not a related organization and that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part VI</i>	37		No
38	Did the organization complete Schedule O and provide explanations in Schedule O for Part VI, lines 11b and 19? Note. All Form 990 filers are required to complete Schedule O	38	Yes	

Part V

Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part V

		Yes	No
1a	Enter the number reported in Box 3 of Form 1096. Enter -0- if not applicable.	4	
1b	Enter the number of Forms W-2G included in line 1a. Enter -0- if not applicable.	0	
c Did the organization comply with backup withholding rules for reportable payments to vendors and reportable gaming (gambling) winnings to prize winners?		1c	Yes
2a	Enter the number of employees reported on Form W-3, Transmittal of Wage and Tax Statements, filed for the calendar year ending with or within the year covered by this return.	23	
b If at least one is reported on line 2a, did the organization file all required federal employment tax returns? Note. If the sum of lines 1a and 2a is greater than 250, you may be required to e-file (see instructions).		2b	Yes
3a Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year?		3a	Yes
b If "Yes," has it filed a Form 990-T for this year? If "No" to line 3b, provide an explanation in Schedule O.		3b	Yes
4a At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in, or a signature or other authority over, a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)?		4a	No
b If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: _____ See instructions for filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR).			
5a Was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction at any time during the tax year?		5a	No
b Did any taxable party notify the organization that it was or is a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction?		5b	No
c If "Yes," to line 5a or 5b, did the organization file Form 8886-T?		5c	
6a Does the organization have annual gross receipts that are normally greater than \$100,000, and did the organization solicit any contributions that were not tax deductible as charitable contributions?		6a	No
b If "Yes," did the organization include with every solicitation an express statement that such contributions or gifts were not tax deductible?		6b	
7 Organizations that may receive deductible contributions under section 170(c).			
a Did the organization receive a payment in excess of \$75 made partly as a contribution and partly for goods and services provided to the payor?		7a	
b If "Yes," did the organization notify the donor of the value of the goods or services provided?		7b	
c Did the organization sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of tangible personal property for which it was required to file Form 8282?		7c	
d If "Yes," indicate the number of Forms 8282 filed during the year.		7d	
e Did the organization receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract?		7e	
f Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract?		7f	
g If the organization received a contribution of qualified intellectual property, did the organization file Form 8899 as required?		7g	
h If the organization received a contribution of cars, boats, airplanes, or other vehicles, did the organization file a Form 1098-C?		7h	
8 Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds. Did a donor advised fund maintained by the sponsoring organization have excess business holdings at any time during the year?		8	
9a Did the sponsoring organization make any taxable distributions under section 4966?		9a	
b Did the sponsoring organization make a distribution to a donor, donor advisor, or related person?		9b	
10 Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter			
a Initiation fees and capital contributions included on Part VIII, line 12.		10a	
b Gross receipts, included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, for public use of club facilities.		10b	
11 Section 501(c)(12) organizations. Enter			
a Gross income from members or shareholders.		11a	
b Gross income from other sources (Do not net amounts due or paid to other sources against amounts due or received from them).		11b	
12a Section 4947(a)(1) non-exempt charitable trusts. Is the organization filing Form 990 in lieu of Form 1041?		12a	
b If "Yes," enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year.		12b	
13 Section 501(c)(29) qualified nonprofit health insurance issuers.			
a Is the organization licensed to issue qualified health plans in more than one state? Note. See the instructions for additional information the organization must report on Schedule O.		13a	
b Enter the amount of reserves the organization is required to maintain by the states in which the organization is licensed to issue qualified health plans.		13b	
c Enter the amount of reserves on hand.		13c	
14a Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the tax year?		14a	No
b If "Yes," has it filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O.		14b	

Part VI

Governance, Management, and Disclosure

For each "Yes" response to lines 2 through 7b below, and for a "No" response to lines 8a, 8b, or 10b below, describe the circumstances, processes, or changes in Schedule O. See instructions.

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VI

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Section A. Governing Body and Management

		Yes	No
1a Enter the number of voting members of the governing body at the end of the tax year	1a 13		
If there are material differences in voting rights among members of the governing body, or if the governing body delegated broad authority to an executive committee or similar committee, explain in Schedule O			
b Enter the number of voting members included in line 1a, above, who are independent	1b 13		
2 Did any officer, director, trustee, or key employee have a family relationship or a business relationship with any other officer, director, trustee, or key employee?	2		No
3 Did the organization delegate control over management duties customarily performed by or under the direct supervision of officers, directors or trustees, or key employees to a management company or other person?	3		No
4 Did the organization make any significant changes to its governing documents since the prior Form 990 was filed?	4		No
5 Did the organization become aware during the year of a significant diversion of the organization's assets?	5		No
6 Did the organization have members or stockholders?	6	Yes	
7a Did the organization have members, stockholders, or other persons who had the power to elect or appoint one or more members of the governing body?	7a	Yes	
b Are any governance decisions of the organization reserved to (or subject to approval by) members, stockholders, or persons other than the governing body?	7b		No
8 Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year by the following			
a The governing body?	8a	Yes	
b Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body?	8b	Yes	
9 Is there any officer, director, trustee, or key employee listed in Part VII, Section A, who cannot be reached at the organization's mailing address? <i>If "Yes," provide the names and addresses in Schedule O</i>	9		No

Section B. Policies *(This Section B requests information about policies not required by the Internal Revenue Code.)*

	Yes	No
10a Did the organization have local chapters, branches, or affiliates?	10a	No
b If "Yes," did the organization have written policies and procedures governing the activities of such chapters, affiliates, and branches to ensure their operations are consistent with the organization's exempt purposes?	10b	
11a Has the organization provided a complete copy of this Form 990 to all members of its governing body before filing the form?	11a	No
b Describe in Schedule O the process, if any, used by the organization to review this Form 990		
12a Did the organization have a written conflict of interest policy? <i>If "No," go to line 13</i>	12a	No
b Were officers, directors, or trustees, and key employees required to disclose annually interests that could give rise to conflicts?	12b	
c Did the organization regularly and consistently monitor and enforce compliance with the policy? <i>If "Yes," describe in Schedule O how this was done</i>	12c	
13 Did the organization have a written whistleblower policy?	13	No
14 Did the organization have a written document retention and destruction policy?	14	No
15 Did the process for determining compensation of the following persons include a review and approval by independent persons, comparability data, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision?		
a The organization's CEO, Executive Director, or top management official	15a	Yes
b Other officers or key employees of the organization	15b	No
If "Yes" to line 15a or 15b, describe the process in Schedule O (see instructions)		
16a Did the organization invest in, contribute assets to, or participate in a joint venture or similar arrangement with a taxable entity during the year?	16a	No
b If "Yes," did the organization follow a written policy or procedure requiring the organization to evaluate its participation in joint venture arrangements under applicable federal tax law, and take steps to safeguard the organization's exempt status with respect to such arrangements?	16b	

Section C. Disclosure

17 List the States with which a copy of this Form 990 is required to be filed	
18 Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Form 1023 (or 1024 if applicable), 990, and 990-T (501(c)(3)s only) available for public inspection. Indicate how you made these available. Check all that apply. ☐ Own website ☐ Another's website ☒ Upon request ☐ Other (explain in Schedule O)	
19 Describe in Schedule O whether (and if so, how) the organization made its governing documents, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements available to the public during the tax year	
20 State the name, address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the organization's books and records CHANN NOUN 200 SW MARKET STREET STE 190 PORTLAND, OR 97201 (503) 220-2041	

Part VII

Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VII

Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

1a Complete this table for all persons required to be listed. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year.

- List all of the organization's **current** officers, directors, trustees (whether individuals or organizations), regardless of amount of compensation. Enter -0- in columns (D), (E), and (F) if no compensation was paid.
- List all of the organization's **current** key employees, if any. See instructions for definition of "key employee."
- List the organization's five **current** highest compensated employees (other than an officer, director, trustee or key employee) who received reportable compensation (Box 5 of Form W-2 and/or Box 7 of Form 1099-MISC) of more than \$100,000 from the organization and any related organizations.
- List all of the organization's **former** officers, key employees, or highest compensated employees who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.
- List all of the organization's **former directors or trustees** that received, in the capacity as a former director or trustee of the organization, more than \$10,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.

List persons in the following order: individual trustees or directors; institutional trustees; officers; key employees; highest compensated employees; and former such persons.

Check this box if neither the organization nor any related organization compensated any current officer, director, or trustee

(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W- 2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W- 2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional Trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
(1) SEBASTIAN DEGENS DIRECTOR	1 00	X						0	0	0
(2) MIKE SCHILLER DIRECTOR	1 00	X						0	0	0
(3) CAPT RICK GILL DIRECTOR	1 00	X						0	0	0
(4) WAYNE YIM DIRECTOR	1 00	X						0	0	0
(5) KRISTIN MEIRA DIRECTOR	1 00	X						0	0	0
(6) FRANK BURG DIRECTOR	1 00	X						0	0	0
(7) MARK JENSEN SECRETARY	1 00			X				0	0	0
(8) PHILIP BROTHERTON DIRECTOR	1 00	X						0	0	0
(9) KEN ANDERSON DIRECTOR	1 00	X						0	0	0
(10) RICHARD VINCENT DIRECTOR	1 00	X						0	0	0
(11) RANDY CLICK PRESIDENT	1 00			X				0	0	0
(12) MIKE MORGAN TREASURER	1 00			X				0	0	0
(13) GARRETT COSTELLO VICE PRESIDE	1 00			X				0	0	0
(14) ELIZABETH WAINWRIGHT EXECUTIVE DI	40 00			X				160,362	0	23,041

Part VII

1b	Sub-Total			
c	Total from continuation sheets to Part VII, Section A			
d	Total (add lines 1b and 1c)	376,451		53,647

2 Total number of individuals (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization ▶ 3

		Yes	No
3	Did the organization list any former officer, director or trustee, key employee, or highest compensated employee on line 1a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual</i>		
	3		No
4	For any individual listed on line 1a, is the sum of reportable compensation and other compensation from the organization and related organizations greater than \$150,000? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual</i>		
	4	Yes	
5	Did any person listed on line 1a receive or accrue compensation from any unrelated organization or individual for services rendered to the organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such person</i>		
	5		No

Section B. Independent Contractors

1 Complete this table for your five highest compensated independent contractors that received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year.

(A) Name and business address	(B) Description of services	(C) Compensation

2 Total number of independent contractors (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization ▶

Part VIII

Statement of Revenue

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VIII

				(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	
				Total revenue	Related or exempt function revenue	Unrelated business revenue	Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512-514	
Contributions, Gifts, Grants and Other Similar Amounts	1a	Federated campaigns . . .	1a					
	b	Membership dues	1b					
	c	Fundraising events	1c					
	d	Related organizations	1d					
	e	Government grants (contributions)	1e	47,387				
	f	All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above	1f					
	g	Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f \$						
	h	Total. Add lines 1a-1f			47,387			
Program Service Revenue			Business Code					
	2a	ADMIN SERVICES - UNRELATED	561000	834,812		834,812		
	b	VESSEL REPORTING		507,143	507,143			
	c	MEMBERSHIP DUES & ASSESSMENTS		200,611	200,611			
	d	ADMIN SERVICES		124,977	124,977			
	e	BULLETINS&STATISTICS		53,387	53,387			
	f	All other program service revenue		34,635	34,635			
	g	Total. Add lines 2a-2f			1,755,565			
Other Revenue	3	Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts)		6,605			6,605	
	4	Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds						
	5	Royalties						
	6a	Gross rents		(i) Real	(ii) Personal			
		Less rental expenses						
		Rental income or (loss)						
		Net rental income or (loss)						
	7a	Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory		(i) Securities	(ii) Other			
		Less cost or other basis and sales expenses			373			
		Gain or (loss)			-373			
		Net gain or (loss)			-373	-373		
	8a	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ _____ of contributions reported on line 1c) See Part IV, line 18		a	11,110			
	b	Less direct expenses		b	6,402			
	c	Net income or (loss) from fundraising events			4,708		4,708	
	9a	Gross income from gaming activities See Part IV, line 19		a				
	b	Less direct expenses		b				
	c	Net income or (loss) from gaming activities						
	10a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances		a				
	b	Less cost of goods sold		b				
	c	Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory						
Miscellaneous Revenue		Business Code						
11a	SUBLEASE INCOME			3,900	3,900			
b	UNREALIZED GAIN - INVESTMENTS			130	130			
c								
d	All other revenue							
e	Total. Add lines 11a-11d			4,030				
12	Total revenue. See Instructions			1,817,922	924,410	834,812	11,313	

Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses

Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns All other organizations must complete column (A)

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX

Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.		(A) Total expenses	(B) Program service expenses	(C) Management and general expenses	(D) Fundraising expenses
1	Grants and other assistance to domestic organizations and domestic governments See Part IV, line 21	3,250			
2	Grants and other assistance to domestic individuals See Part IV, line 22				
3	Grants and other assistance to foreign organizations, foreign governments, and foreign individuals See Part IV, lines 15 and 16				
4	Benefits paid to or for members				
5	Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees	183,403			
6	Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)				
7	Other salaries and wages	906,504			
8	Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions)	57,783			
9	Other employee benefits	107,876			
10	Payroll taxes	93,553			
11	Fees for services (non-employees)				
a	Management				
b	Legal	10,394			
c	Accounting	6,025			
d	Lobbying				
e	Professional fundraising services See Part IV, line 17				
f	Investment management fees				
g	Other (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 11g expenses on Schedule O)	16,818			
12	Advertising and promotion				
13	Office expenses	15,929			
14	Information technology				
15	Royalties				
16	Occupancy	98,953			
17	Travel	12,821			
18	Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials				
19	Conferences, conventions, and meetings	4,628			
20	Interest				
21	Payments to affiliates				
22	Depreciation, depletion, and amortization	74,419			
23	Insurance	23,965			
24	Other expenses Itemize expenses not covered above (List miscellaneous expenses in line 24e If line 24e amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 24e expenses on Schedule O)				
a	COMMUNICATIONS	31,171			
b	COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT	26,079			
c	GRANT EXPENDITURES	25,735			
d	EQUIPMENT RENT	18,102			
e	All other expenses	51,553			
25	Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24e	1,768,961	0	0	0
26	Joint costs. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation Check here if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720)				

Part X

Balance Sheet

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part X

					(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year
Assets	1	Cash—non-interest-bearing			150	1	150
	2	Savings and temporary cash investments			926,085	2	692,972
	3	Pledges and grants receivable, net				3	
	4	Accounts receivable, net			52,076	4	85,220
	5	Loans and other receivables from current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees. Complete Part II of Schedule L.					
						5	
	6	Loans and other receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)), persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B), and contributing employers and sponsoring organizations of section 501(c)(9) voluntary employees' beneficiary organizations (see instructions). Complete Part II of Schedule L.					
						6	
	7	Notes and loans receivable, net				7	
	8	Inventories for sale or use				8	
	9	Prepaid expenses and deferred charges			22,983	9	21,647
	10a	Land, buildings, and equipment: cost or other basis. Complete Part VI of Schedule D.	10a	409,368			
	b	Less: accumulated depreciation	10b	224,723	253,528	10c	184,645
	11	Investments—publicly traded securities				11	
	12	Investments—other securities. See Part IV, line 11.			199,675	12	527,376
	13	Investments—program-related. See Part IV, line 11.				13	
Liabilities	14	Intangible assets				14	
	15	Other assets. See Part IV, line 11.			9,334	15	4,381
	16	Total assets. Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34).			1,463,831	16	1,516,391
	17	Accounts payable and accrued expenses			92,203	17	90,686
	18	Grants payable				18	
	19	Deferred revenue			27,028	19	32,144
	20	Tax-exempt bond liabilities				20	
	21	Escrow or custodial account liability. Complete Part IV of Schedule D.				21	
	22	Loans and other payables to current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, and disqualified persons. Complete Part II of Schedule L.				22	
	23	Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties				23	
Net Assets or Fund Balances	24	Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties				24	
	25	Other liabilities (including federal income tax, payables to related third parties, and other liabilities not included on lines 17-24). Complete Part X of Schedule D.				25	
	26	Total liabilities. Add lines 17 through 25.			119,231	26	122,830
		Organizations that follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here ☒ and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34.					
	27	Unrestricted net assets			1,197,114	27	1,292,930
	28	Temporarily restricted net assets			147,486	28	100,631
	29	Permanently restricted net assets				29	
		Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here ☐ and complete lines 30 through 34.					
	30	Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds				30	
	31	Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building or equipment fund				31	
	32	Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds				32	
	33	Total net assets or fund balances			1,344,600	33	1,393,561
	34	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances			1,463,831	34	1,516,391

Part XI

Reconciliation of Net Assets

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XI ☐

1	Total revenue (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1	1,817,922
2	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2	1,768,961
3	Revenue less expenses Subtract line 2 from line 1	3	48,961
4	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 33, column (A))	4	1,344,600
5	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	5	
6	Donated services and use of facilities	6	
7	Investment expenses	7	
8	Prior period adjustments	8	
9	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	9	
10	Net assets or fund balances at end of year Combine lines 3 through 9 (must equal Part X, line 33, column (B))	10	1,393,561

Part XII

Financial Statements and Reporting

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XII ☐

	Yes	No
1 Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990 ☐ Cash ☒ Accrual ☐ Other _____ If the organization changed its method of accounting from a prior year or checked "Other," explain in Schedule O		
2a Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant? If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were compiled or reviewed on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both ☒ Separate basis ☐ Consolidated basis ☐ Both consolidated and separate basis	Yes	
2b Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant? If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were audited on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both ☐ Separate basis ☐ Consolidated basis ☐ Both consolidated and separate basis		No
2c If "Yes," to line 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant? If the organization changed either its oversight process or selection process during the tax year, explain in Schedule O	Yes	
3a As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133?		No
3b If "Yes," did the organization undergo the required audit or audits? If the organization did not undergo the required audit or audits, explain why in Schedule O and describe any steps taken to undergo such audits		

Additional Data

Software ID:
Software Version:
EIN: 93-0224840
Name: MERCHANTS EXCHANGE

Form 990, Part III - 4 Program Service Accomplishments (See the Instructions)

(Code	) (Expenses \$	including grants of \$	) (Revenue \$	)
PROVIDE ASSOCIATION SUPPORT SERVICES SUCH AS BOOKKEEPING, ADMINISTRATION, COMMUNICATIONS, RECORD STORAGE, DAY TO DAY PROGRAM OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT, ETC TO 9 ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED IN VARIOUS ASPECTS OF MARITIME AND AGRICULTURAL COMMERCE IN THE REGION THE ORGANIZATION PROVIDED 27 MEMBERS WITH ANSWERING COMMUNICATIONS				

SCHEDULE D
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Financial Statements

► Complete if the organization answered "Yes," on Form 990,
Part IV, line 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e, 11f, 12a, or 12b.
► Attach to Form 990.

Information about Schedule D (Form 990) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization
MERCHANTS EXCHANGE

Employer identification number
93-0224840

Part I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 6.

	(a) Donor advised funds	(b) Funds and other accounts
1	Total number at end of year	
2	Aggregate value of contributions to (during year)	
3	Aggregate value of grants from (during year)	
4	Aggregate value at end of year	
5	Did the organization inform all donors and donor advisors in writing that the assets held in donor advised funds are the organization's property, subject to the organization's exclusive legal control? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
6	Did the organization inform all grantees, donors, and donor advisors in writing that grant funds can be used only for charitable purposes and not for the benefit of the donor or donor advisor, or for any other purpose conferring impermissible private benefit? ☐ Yes ☐ No	

Part II Conservation Easements.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 7.

1

Purpose(s) of conservation easements held by the organization (check all that apply)

☐ Preservation of land for public use (e g , recreation or education) ☐ Preservation of an historically important land area
☐ Protection of natural habitat ☐ Preservation of a certified historic structure
☐ Preservation of open space

2

Complete lines 2a through 2d if the organization held a qualified conservation contribution in the form of a conservation easement on the last day of the tax year

	Held at the End of the Year
a	Total number of conservation easements
b	Total acreage restricted by conservation easements
c	Number of conservation easements on a certified historic structure included in (a)
d	Number of conservation easements included in (c) acquired after 8/17/06, and not on a historic structure listed in the National Register

3

Number of conservation easements modified, transferred, released, extinguished, or terminated by the organization during the tax year ► _____

4

Number of states where property subject to conservation easement is located ► _____

5

Does the organization have a written policy regarding the periodic monitoring, inspection, handling of violations, and enforcement of the conservation easements it holds?

☐ Yes ☐ No

6

Staff and volunteer hours devoted to monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year
► _____

7

Amount of expenses incurred in monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year
► \$ _____

8

Does each conservation easement reported on line 2(d) above satisfy the requirements of section 170(h)(4) (B)(i) and section 170(h)(4)(B)(ii)?

☐ Yes ☐ No

9

In Part XIII, describe how the organization reports conservation easements in its revenue and expense statement, and balance sheet, and include, if applicable, the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that describes the organization's accounting for conservation easements

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 8.

1a

If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116 (ASC 958), not to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide, in Part XIII, the text of the footnote to its financial statements that describes these items

b

If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116 (ASC 958), to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide the following amounts relating to these items

(i)

Revenue included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1

► \$ _____

(ii)

Assets included in Form 990, Part X

► \$ _____

2

If the organization received or held works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets for financial gain, provide the following amounts required to be reported under SFAS 116 (ASC 958) relating to these items

a

Revenue included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1

► \$ _____

b

Assets included in Form 990, Part X

► \$ _____

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990.

Cat No 52283D

Schedule D (Form 990) 2015

Part III

Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets

(continued)

3

Using the organization's acquisition, accession, and other records, check any of the following that are a significant use of its collection items (check all that apply)

a

☐ Public exhibition

b

☐ Scholarly research

c

☐ Preservation for future generations

d

☐ Loan or exchange programs

e

☐ Other

4

Provide a description of the organization's collections and explain how they further the organization's exempt purpose in Part XIII

5

During the year, did the organization solicit or receive donations of art, historical treasures or other similar assets to be sold to raise funds rather than to be maintained as part of the organization's collection?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Part IV

Escrow and Custodial Arrangements.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 9, or reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21.

1a

Is the organization an agent, trustee, custodian or other intermediary for contributions or other assets not included on Form 990, Part X?

☐ Yes

☐ No

b

If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII and complete the following table

c

Beginning balance

d

Additions during the year

e

Distributions during the year

f

Ending balance

	Amount
1c	
1d	
1e	
1f	

2a

Did the organization include an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21, for escrow or custodial account liability?

☐ Yes

☐ No

b

If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII Check here if the explanation has been provided in Part XIII

☐

Part V

Endowment Funds.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 10.

	(a)Current year	(b)Prior year	b (c)Two years back	(d)Three years back	(e)Four years back
1a	Beginning of year balance				
b	Contributions				
c	Net investment earnings, gains, and losses				
d	Grants or scholarships				
e	Other expenditures for facilities and programs				
f	Administrative expenses				
g	End of year balance				

2

Provide the estimated percentage of the current year end balance (line 1g, column (a)) held as

a

Board designated or quasi-endowment

b

Permanent endowment

c

Temporarily restricted endowment

The percentages on lines 2a, 2b, and 2c should equal 100%

3a

Are there endowment funds not in the possession of the organization that are held and administered for the organization by

(i)

unrelated organizations

(ii)

related organizations

b

If "Yes" on 3a(ii), are the related organizations listed as required on Schedule R?

	Yes	No
3a(i)		
3a(ii)		
3b		

4

Describe in Part XIII the intended uses of the organization's endowment funds

Part VI

Land, Buildings, and Equipment.

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' to Form 990, Part IV, line 11a.See Form 990, Part X, line 10.

Description of property	(a) Cost or other basis (investment)	(b) Cost or other basis (other)	Accumulated (c)depreciation	(d)Book value
1a Land				
b Buildings				
c Leasehold improvements		20,568	4,602	15,966
d Equipment		248,571	153,748	94,823
e Other		140,229	66,373	73,856
Total. Add lines 1a through 1e (Column (d) must equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10(c).)				184,645

Part XI

Reconciliation of Revenue per Audited Financial Statements With Revenue per Return

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

1	Total revenue, gains, and other support per audited financial statements		1	
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12			
a	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	2a		
b	Donated services and use of facilities	2b		
c	Recoveries of prior year grants	2c		
d	Other (Describe in Part XIII)	2d		
e	Add lines 2a through 2d		2e	
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1		3	
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, but not on line 1			
a	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b	4a		
b	Other (Describe in Part XIII)	4b		
c	Add lines 4a and 4b		4c	
5	Total revenue Add lines 3 and 4c.(This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 12)		5	

Part XII

Reconciliation of Expenses per Audited Financial Statements With Expenses per Return.

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

1	Total expenses and losses per audited financial statements		1	
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part IX, line 25			
a	Donated services and use of facilities	2a		
b	Prior year adjustments	2b		
c	Other losses	2c		
d	Other (Describe in Part XIII)	2d		
e	Add lines 2a through 2d		2e	
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1		3	
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part IX, line 25, but not on line 1:			
a	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b	4a		
b	Other (Describe in Part XIII)	4b		
c	Add lines 4a and 4b		4c	
5	Total expenses Add lines 3 and 4c. (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 18)		5	

Part XIII

Supplemental Information

Provide the descriptions required for Part II, lines 3, 5, and 9, Part III, lines 1a and 4, Part IV, lines 1b and 2b, Part V, line 4, Part X, line 2, Part XI, lines 2d and 4b, and Part XII, lines 2d and 4b. Also complete this part to provide any additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation

[illegible]

Schedule J
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Compensation Information

For certain Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

▶ Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 23.
▶ Attach to Form 990.

▶ Information about Schedule J (Form 990) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization
MERCHANTS EXCHANGE

Employer identification number
93-0224840

Part I

Questions Regarding Compensation

	Yes	No
1a Check the appropriate box(es) if the organization provided any of the following to or for a person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a Complete Part III to provide any relevant information regarding these items ☐ First-class or charter travel ☐ Travel for companions ☐ Tax idemnification and gross-up payments ☐ Discretionary spending account ☐ Housing allowance or residence for personal use ☐ Payments for business use of personal residence ☐ Health or social club dues or initiation fees ☐ Personal services (e g , maid, chauffeur, chef)		
b If any of the boxes in line 1a are checked, did the organization follow a written policy regarding payment or reimbursement or provision of all of the expenses described above? If "No," complete Part III to explain	1b	
2 Did the organization require substantiation prior to reimbursing or allowing expenses incurred by all directors, trustees, officers, including the CEO/Executive Director, regarding the items checked in line 1a?	2	
3 Indicate which, if any, of the following the filing organization used to establish the compensation of the organization's CEO/Executive Director Check all that apply Do not check any boxes for methods used by a related organization to establish compensation of the CEO/Executive Director, but explain in Part III ☐ Compensation committee ☒ Independent compensation consultant ☐ Form 990 of other organizations ☐ Written employment contract ☒ Compensation survey or study ☒ Approval by the board or compensation committee		
4 During the year, did any person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a with respect to the filing organization or a related organization		
a Receive a severance payment or change-of-control payment?	4a	No
b Participate in, or receive payment from, a supplemental nonqualified retirement plan?	4b	No
c Participate in, or receive payment from, an equity-based compensation arrangement? If "Yes" to any of lines 4a-c, list the persons and provide the applicable amounts for each item in Part III	4c	No
Only 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations must complete lines 5-9.		
5 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the revenues of		
a The organization?	5a	
b Any related organization? If "Yes," on line 5a or 5b, describe in Part III	5b	
6 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the net earnings of		
a The organization?	6a	
b Any related organization? If "Yes," on line 6a or 6b, describe in Part III	6b	
7 For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization provide any non-fixed payments not described in lines 5 and 6? If "Yes," describe in Part III	7	
8 Were any amounts reported on Form 990, Part VII, paid or accrued pursuant to a contract that was subject to the initial contract exception described in Regulations section 53.4958-4(a)(3)? If "Yes," describe in Part III	8	
9 If "Yes" on line 8, did the organization also follow the rebuttable presumption procedure described in Regulations section 53.4958-6(c)?	9	

Part II

Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees. Use duplicate copies if additional space is needed.

For each individual whose compensation must be reported on Schedule J, report compensation from the organization on row (i) and from related organizations, described in the instructions, on row (ii) Do not list any individuals that are not listed on Form 990, Part VII

Note. The sum of columns (B)(i)-(iii) for each listed individual must equal the total amount of Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, applicable column (D) and (E) amounts for that individual

(A) Name and Title		(B) Breakdown of W-2 and/or 1099-MISC compensation			(C) Retirement and other deferred compensation	(D) Nontaxable benefits	(E) Total of columns (B)(i)-(D)	(F) Compensation in column(B) reported as deferred on prior Form 990
		Base (i) compensation	(ii) Bonus & incentive compensation	(iii) Other reportable compensation				
1 ELIZABETH WAINWRIGHT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	(i)	160,362			13,443	9,598	183,403	
	(ii)	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Part III **Supplemental Information**

Provide the information, explanation, or descriptions required for Part I, lines 1a, 1b, 3, 4a, 4b, 4c, 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b, 7, and 8, and for Part II. Also complete this part for any additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation
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SCHEDULE O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

**Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on
Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.**

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

**▶ Information about Schedule O (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at
www.irs.gov/form990.**

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

**Open to Public
Inspection**

Name of the organization
MERCHANTS EXCHANGE

Employer identification number

93-0224840

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990, PAGE 2, PART III, LINE 4D	PROVIDE ASSOCIATION SUPPORT SERVICES SUCH AS BOOKKEEPING, ADMINISTRATION, COMMUNICATIONS, RECORD STORAGE, DAY TO DAY PROGRAM OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT, ETC TO 9 ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED IN VARIOUS ASPECTS OF MARITIME AND AGRICULTURAL COMMERCE IN THE REGION THE ORGANIZATION PROVIDED 27 MEMBERS WITH ANSWERING COMMUNICATIONS
FORM 990, PAGE 6, PART VI, LINE 6	ALL DUES PAYING MEMBERS HAVE VOTING RIGHTS
FORM 990, PAGE 6, PART VI, LINE 7A	ALL DUES PAYING MEMBERS CAN ELECT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FORM 990, PAGE 6, PART VI, LINE 11B	COPY OF FORM 990 IS REVIEWED BY MANAGEMENT AND THEN BY AT LEAST ONE OFFICER ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS BEFORE IT IS FINALIZED AND SIGNED BY AN OFFICER OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FORM 990, PAGE 6, PART VI, LINE 15A	ANNUALLY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS REVIEWS AND APPROVES THE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE GOALS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, REVIEWS AND APPROVES OVERALL PERFORMANCE VERSUS GOALS AND REVIEWS AND APPROVES PAY ACTIONS ALL AT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE EXECUTIVE & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND THE FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE. ANNUALLY THE BOARD RELIES ON A COMPENSATION STUDY PERFORMED BY AN INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT TO VALIDATE ITS RECOMMENDATION FOR COMPENSATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. THE EXECUTIVE & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETS QUARTERLY WITH THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ESTABLISH AND REVIEW GOALS AGAINST PERFORMANCE. THE FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE ALLOCATES PAY TO THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND INITIATES PAY ACTION.
FORM 990, PAGE 6, PART VI, LINE 19	THE ORGANIZATIONS GOVERNING DOCUMENTS, POLICIES AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE TO ITS MEMBERS BUT ARE NOT MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC