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**Short Form
Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax**

2015

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)

**Open to Public
Inspection**

▶ **Do not enter Social Security numbers on this form as it may be made public.**

▶ **Information about Form 990-EZ and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.**

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

A For the 2015 calendar year, or tax year beginning 07/01, 2015, and ending 06/30, 2016

B Check if applicable:
 Address change
 Name change
 Initial return
 Final return
 Amended return
 Application pend.

C Hardee County Farm Bureau
1017 US HWY 17 N
Wauchula, FL 33873-8751

D Employer identification no. 59-0752041

E Telephone number (863) 773-3117

F Group Exemption Number ▶1805

G Accounting method: Cash Accrual Other (specify) ▶ _____

H Check if the organization is not required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF).

I Website: ▶ N/A

J Tax-exempt status (check only one) - 501(c)(3) 501(c)(5) (insert no.) 4947(a)(1) or 527

K Form of organization: Corporation Trust Association Other _____

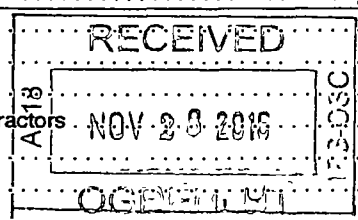
L Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b to line 9 to determine gross receipts. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets (Part II, line 25, column (B) below) are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ ▶ \$ 195,741.

Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances (See the instructions for Part I.)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part I

1	Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received	1	
2	Program service revenue including government fees and contracts	2	5,756.
3	Membership dues and assessments	3	48,822.
4	Investment income	4	4,445.
5a	Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory	5a	
b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses	5b	
c	Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a)	5c	
6	Gaming and fundraising events		
a	Gross income from gaming (attach Schedule G if greater than \$15,000)	6a	
b	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ _____ of contributions from fundraising events reported on line 1) (attach Schedule G if the sum of such gross income and contributions exceed \$15,000)	6b	
c	Less: direct expenses from gaming and fundraising events	6c	
d	Net income or (loss) from gaming and fundraising events (add lines 6a and 6b and subtract line 6c)	6d	
7a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	7a	17,826.
b	Less: cost of goods sold	7b	17,704.
c	Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a)	7c	122.
8	Other revenue (describe in Schedule O)	8	118,892.
9	Total revenue Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6d, 7c, and 8	9	178,037.
10	Grants and similar amounts paid (list in Schedule O)	10	22,243.
11	Benefits paid to or for members	11	
12	Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits	12	65,777.
13	Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors	13	
14	Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance	14	24,098.
15	Printing, publications, postage, and shipping	15	1,168.
16	Other expenses (describe in Schedule O)	16	39,769.
17	Total expenses Add lines 10 through 16	17	153,055.
18	Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9)	18	24,982.
19	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	19	185,372.
20	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	20	-2,112.
21	Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 18 through 20	21	208,242.

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10

Part II Balance Sheets. (see the instructions for Part II.)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part II

	(A) Beginning of the year	(B) End of year
22 Cash, savings, and investments	160,693.	180,680.
23 Land and Buildings	23,952.	26,723.
24 Other assets (describe in Schedule O)	1,706.	3,813.
25 Total assets	186,351.	211,216.
26 Total liabilities (describe in Schedule O)	979.	2,974.
27 Net assets or fund balances (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21)	185,372.	208,242.

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments (see the Instructions for Part III.)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part III

Expenses
(Required for section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations; optional for others.)

What is the organization's primary exempt purpose? Education Information Economic

Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, or other relevant information for each program title.

28 See Schedule O

(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here 28a

29

(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here 29a

30

(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here 30a

31 Other program services (attach schedule)

(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here 31a

32 Total program service expenses (add lines 28a through 31a) 32

Part IV List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees (List each one even if not compensated. (see the instructions for Part IV.)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part IV

(a) Name and title	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable Compensation (if not paid, enter -0-	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
David B Royal President	10	0.	0.	0.
Greg L Shackelford Director	1	0.	0.	0.
Bo Rich Director	1	0.	0.	0.
Joseph B Cherry Director	1	0.	0.	0.
Steve A Johnson Director	1	0.	0.	0.
Corey M Lambert Sec/Treas	3	0.	0.	0.
Scott B Henderson Director	1	0.	0.	0.
Daniel H Smith Director	1	0.	0.	0.
Tommy Watkins Vice President	2	0.	0.	0.

Part V Other Information (Note the Schedule A and personal benefit contract statement requirements in the instructions for Part V.) Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part V

33 Did the organization engage in any activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," provide a detailed description of each activity in Schedule O
34 Were any significant changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the amended documents if they reflect a change to the organization's name. Otherwise, explain the change on Schedule O (see instructions)
35 a Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year from business activities (such as those reported on line 2, 6a, and 7a, among others)?
35 b If "Yes," to line 35a, has the organization filed a Form 990-T for the year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O
35 c Was the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements during the year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III
36 Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year? If "Yes," complete applicable parts of Schedule N
37 a Enter amount of political expenditures direct or indirect, as described in the instructions.
37 b Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?
38 a Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee or were any such loans made in a prior year and still unpaid at the start of the period covered by this return?
38 b If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved
39 Section 501(c)(7) organizations Enter:
39 a Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9
39 b Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities
40 a Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under: section 4911; section 4912; section 4955
40 b Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year, or did it engage in an excess benefit transaction in a prior year that has not been reported on any of its prior Forms 990 or 900-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I
40 c Section 501(c)(3) 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958
40 d Section 501(c)(3) 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization
40 e All organizations. At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? If "Yes," complete Form 8886-T
41 List the states with which a copy of this return is filed. Florida
42 a The organization's books are in care of Leona Nickerson Tel. no. 863-773-3117
Located at 1017 US Hwy 17 N, Wauchula, FL ZIP + 4 33873-8751
42 b 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)? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR).
42 c At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside of the U.S.? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country:
43 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041-- Check here and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year
44 a Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ
44 b Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ
44 c Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the year?
44 d If "Yes" to line 44c, has the organization filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O
45 a Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?
45 b Did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," Form 990 and Schedule R may need to be completed instead of Form 990-EZ (see instr.)

46 Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I Yes No
46

Part VI Section 501(c)(3) organizations only

All section 501(c)(3) organizations must answer questions 47-49b and 52, and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI

47 Did the organization engage in lobbying activities or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II Yes No
47

48 Is the organization operating a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E 48

49 a Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? 49a

b If "Yes," was the related organization(s) a section 527 organization? 49b

50 Complete this table for the five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and title of each employee	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation from the organization (Forms W-2/1099-MISC)	(d) Health benefits contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation

f Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000 ▶

51 Complete this table for the five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and address of each independent contractor	(b) Type of service	(c) compensation

d Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000 ▶

52 Did the organization complete Schedule A? **Note** All section 501(c)(3) organizations and 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must attach a completed Schedule A Yes No

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 11-8-2016
Date
 Signature of officer: D. B. Royal
 Type or print name and title: President

Print preparer's name: _____ Preparer's signature: _____ Date: _____ Check if self-employed PTIN: _____

Paid Preparer Use Only
 Firm's name: _____ Firm's EIN: _____
 Firm's address: _____ Phone no.: _____

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions Yes No

Schedule O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

OMB No. 1545-0047

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

2015

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

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Internal Revenue Service

▶ Information about Schedule O (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/forms990.

Name of the organization
Hardee County Farm Bureau

Employer identification number
59-0752041

Part I, Line 8 - Other Revenue

Service Fees	118,492.
Adjuster Reimb	400.
	<u>118,892.</u>

Part I, Line 10 - Expenses - Grants and similar amounts paid

Florida Farm Bureau Federation Dues	<u>22,243.</u>	
Totals:	<u>22,243.</u>	<u>0.</u>

Part I, Line 16 - Other Expenses

Description	Total
Office Expense	6,878.
Meetings & Travel	9,395.
Ag Fest	2,218.
Contributions	150.
Awards	401.
Women's YF&R	285.
Eqpt Rent/Lease	6,322.
Dues & Subscriptions	195.
Special Projects/Promo	5,797.
Employee Education	569.
Miscellaneous	485.
Tax Penalty	75.
Federal Taxes	6,999.
Totals:	<u>39,769.</u>

Part I, Line 20 - Other changes in net assets or fund balances

Gain/Loss on Investment	<u>-2,112.</u>
	<u>-2,112.</u>

Name of the organization

Hardee County Farm Bureau

Employer identification number

59-0752041

Part II, Line 24 - Other Assets

Inventory	3,610.
Pre-Paid Gift Cards	203.
	<u>3,813.</u>

Part II, Line 26 - Other Liabilities

Payroll Liabilities	1,598.
Accounts Payable	1,376.
	<u>2,974.</u>

Page 2, Part III - Line 31, Other Program ServicesDescription

28) We participated in Ag fest, this is an annual event held to educate 4th grade students on the importance of agriculture and where their food comes from. There were 23 different commodity stations. Children learned about hay production, caladiums, phospate, food nutrition, citrus, cattle horticulture dairy, horses, and wildlife management. In an effort to educate our county we provide this hands on education hoping that the students will go home and share what they have learned with their families.

29) Farm Bureau leaders work for the betterment of agriculture by managing and coordinating the youth livestock show. The show focuses on education of young people in how to properly raise and care for livestock in a humane and proper manner.

30) Farm Bureau leaders work to bring new and profitable crops to Hardee County. Current work with the Economic Development Authority accesses the potential of olive production with a test grove.