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Form **990-EZ**

Short Form Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

OMB No. 1545-1150

2017

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.

▶ Go to www.irs.gov/Form990EZ for instructions and the latest information.

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

A For the 2017 calendar year, or tax year beginning 07/01, 2017, and ending 06/30, 2018

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

C

Hardee County Farm Bureau, Inc.
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 ▶ \$ 170,183.

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

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1	Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received	1	
2	Program service revenue including government fees and contracts	2	4,400.
3	Membership dues and assessments	3	45,138.
4	Investment income	4	2,500.
5a	Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory	5a	
5b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses	5b	4,172.
5c	Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a)	5c	-4,172.
6	Gaming and fundraising events		
6a	Gross income from gaming (attach Schedule G if greater than \$15,000)	6a	
6b	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	23,095.
6c	Less: direct expenses from gaming and fundraising events	6c	8,704.
6d	Net income or (loss) from gaming and fundraising events (add lines 6a and 6b and subtract line 6c)	6d	14,391.
7a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	7a	13,919.
7b	Less: cost of goods sold	7b	10,984.
7c	Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a)	7c	2,985.
8	Other revenue (describe in Schedule O)	8	81,131.
9	Total revenue Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6d, 7c, and 8	9	146,373.
10	Grants and similar amounts paid (list in Schedule O)	10	20,562.
11	Benefits paid to or for members	11	
12	Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits	12	49,488.
13	Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors	13	
14	Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance	14	25,930.
15	Printing, publications, postage, and shipping	15	551.
16	Other expenses (describe in Schedule O)	16	28,292.
17	Total expenses Add lines 10 through 16	17	124,823.
18	Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9)	18	21,550.
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	233,496.
20	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	20	11,594.
21	Net assets or fund balances at end of year Combine lines 18 through 20	21	266,640.

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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	193,503.	231,759.
23 Land and Buildings	37,961.	31,618.
24 Other assets (describe in Schedule O)	3,188.	4,224.
25 Total assets	234,652.	267,601.
26 Total liabilities (describe in Schedule O)	1,156.	961.
27 Net assets or fund balances (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21)	233,496.	266,640.

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
Greg L Shackelford Director	2	0.	0.	0.
Steve A Johnson Vice President	6	0.	0.	0.
Corey M Lambert Treasurer	2	0.	0.	0.
Scott B Henderson Secretary	.5	0.	0.	0.
Daniel H Smith Director	2	0.	0.	0.
Tommy Watkins President	6	0.	0.	0.
Roy Pettaway Director	2	0.	0.	0.

60

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

		Yes	No
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)		X
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)?	X	
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	X	
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		X
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		X
37 a	Enter amount of political expenditures direct or indirect, as described in the instructions. <input type="text" value="37a"/> 0.		
b	Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?		X
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?		X
b	If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved <input type="text" value="38b"/>		
39	Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter:		
a	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9 <input type="text" value="39a"/>		
b	Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities <input type="text" value="39b"/>		
40 a	Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under: section 4911 <input type="text"/> ; section 4912 <input type="text"/> ; section 4955 <input type="text"/>		
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 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I		
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 <input type="text"/>		
d	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization <input type="text"/>		
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		X
41	List the states with which a copy of this return is filed. <input type="text" value="Florida"/>		
42 a	The organization's books are in care of <input type="text" value="Robin C Weeks, CPA"/> Tel. no <input type="text" value="863-773-4556"/> Located at <input type="text" value="118 Carlton Street, Wauchula, FL"/> ZIP + 4 <input type="text" value="33873"/>		
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: <input type="text"/> See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR).		X
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: <input type="text"/>		X
43	Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041-- Check here <input type="checkbox"/> and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year <input type="text" value="43"/>		
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		X
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		X
c	Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the year?		X
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)?		X
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)		X

	Yes	No
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		X

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
48 Is the organization operating a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E		
49 a Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization?		
b If "Yes," was the related organization(s) a section 527 organization?		

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

Sign Here
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.
Signature of officer: Thomas C. Watkins
Date: 10/18/18
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 address, Firm's EIN, Phone no.

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions

Schedule G
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information Regarding Fundraising or Gaming Activities

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 17, 18, or 19, or if the organization entered more than \$15,000 on Form 990-EZ, line 6a.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

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

OMB No. 1545-0047

2017

Open to Public Inspection

Name of organization

Hardee County Farm Bureau, Inc.

Employer identification no.

59-0752041

Part II Fund Raising Activities. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 17.
Form 990-EZ filers are not required to complete this part.

1 Indicate whether the organization raised funds through any of the following activities. Check all that apply.

- a Mail solicitations
- b Internet and email solicitations
- c Phone solicitations
- d In-person solicitations
- e Solicitations of non-government grants
- f Solicitations of government grants
- g Special fundraising events

2a Did the organization have a written or oral agreement with any individual (including officers, directors, trustees or key employees listed in Form 990, Part VII) or entity in connection with professional fundraising services? Yes No

b If "Yes," list the ten highest paid individuals or entites (fundraisers) pursuant to agreements under which the fundraiser is to be compensated at least \$5,000 by the organization.

	(i) Name and address of individual or entity (fundraiser)	(ii) Activity	(iii) Did fundraiser have custody or control of contributions?		(iv) Gross receipts from activity	(v) Amount paid to (or retained by) fundraiser listed in col. (i)	(vi) Amount paid to (or retained by) organization
			Yes	No			
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
Total							

3 List all states in which the organization is registered or licensed to solicit funds or has been notified it is exempt from registration or licensing.

Part II Fundraising Events. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 18, or reported more than \$15,000 of fundraising event contributions and gross income on Form 990-EZ, lines 1 and 6b. List events with gross receipts greater than \$5,000.

Revenue	(a) Event #1 YF & R Fundraiser (event type)	(b) Event #2 (event type)	(c) Other Events (total number)	(d) Total Events (Add Col (a) through Col (c))
1 Gross receipts	23,095.			23,095.
2 Less: Contributions				
3 Gross income (line 1 minus line 2)	23,095.			23,095.
Direct Expenses				
4 Cash prizes				
5 Noncash prizes				
6 Rent/facility costs	931.			931.
7 Food and beverages	5,385.			5,385.
8 Entertainment	400.			400.
9 Other direct expenses	1,988.			1,988.
10 Direct expense summary. Add lines 4 through 9 in column (d)				8,704.
11 Net income summary. Subtract line 10 from line 3, column (d)				14,391.

Part III Gaming. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 19, or reported more than \$15,000 on Form 990-EZ, line 6a.

Revenue	(a) Bingo	(b) Pull tabs/instant bingo/progressive bingo	(c) Other gaming	(d) Total gaming (Add Col. (a) through Col. (c))
1 Gross revenue				
Direct Expenses				
2 Cash prizes				
3 Noncash prizes				
4 Rent/facility costs				
5 Other direct expenses				
6 Volunteer labor	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____ % <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____ % <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____ % <input type="checkbox"/> No	
7 Direct expense summary. Add lines 2 through 5 in column (d)				
8 Net gaming income summary. Subtract line 7 from line 1, column (d)				

9 Enter the state(s) in which the organization operates gaming activities: _____
 a Is the organization licensed to operate gaming activities in each of these states? Yes No
 b If "No," Explain: _____

10a Were any of the organization's gaming licenses revoked, suspended or terminated during the tax year? Yes No
 b If "Yes," Explain: _____

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.

▶ Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for the latest information.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2017

**Open to Public
Inspection**

Name of the organization

Hardee County Farm Bureau, Inc.

Employer identification number

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Part I - Line 5, Sales of Securities and Non-inventory Items

<u>Description</u>	<u>Sales Price</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Expenses/ Imprvmnts</u>	<u>Deprec</u>
Air Cond/Electrical System		5798.		1626.
Date Acquired:				
How Acquired:				
Date Sold:				
Sold to:				

Part I, Line 8 - Other Revenue

Service Fees	72,751.
Payroll Reimbursement	8,362.
Miscellaneous	18.
	<u>81,131.</u>

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

Florida Farm Bureau Federation Dues	<u>20,562.</u>	
Totals:	<u>20,562.</u>	<u>0.</u>

Name of the organization

Employer identification number

Hardee County Farm Bureau, Inc.

59-0752041

Part I, Line 16 - Other Expenses

<u>Description</u>	<u>Total</u>
Office Expense	3,342.
Meetings & Travel	5,579.
Ag Fest	3,394.
Contributions	100.
Accounting	1,750.
Federal Taxes	3,563.
Eqpt Rent/Lease	5,698.
Dues & Subscriptions	125.
Special Projects/Promo	4,207.
Employee Education	337.
Miscellaneous	250.
Tax Penalty	-53.
	<hr/>
Totals:	28,292.
	<hr/> <hr/>

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

Gain/Loss on Investment	11,594.
	<hr/>
	11,594.
	<hr/> <hr/>

Part II, Line 24 - Other Assets

Inventory	4,224.
	<hr/>
	4,224.
	<hr/> <hr/>

Part II, Line 26 - Other Liabilities

Payroll Liabilities	961.
	<hr/>
	961.
	<hr/> <hr/>

Name of the organization

Hardee County Farm Bureau, Inc.

Employer identification number

59-0752041

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

Line 28) For more than 20 years, Hardee County Farm Bureau holds an Ag-Fest for local 4th grade students. This year's Ag Fest had 28 interactive stations, including cattle, citrus, beekeeping, fertilizers, nurseries, and local agricultural businesses. The event serves to educate young people about agriculture in their county. We also provide teachers with Ag-in-the Classroom materials to help educate the students throughout the year on the importance of agriculture.

Line 29) The Young Farmers and Ranchers committee continued to work with the local Extension Agent and 4-H students on a raised bed garden box project. Students were provided various vegetable seeds, soil, fertilizer and garden boxes. The participants maintained record books to track their progress. Participants were judged on best yield and best record book. Vegetable gardening can benefit 4-H families by: teaching them responsibility, time management, providing them with an activity that connects them with nature and they can also show citizenship by donating the fruits of their labor.

Line 30) Several volunteers hosted members of the Colorado Young Farmers & Ranchers Leadership Group. They tour various agricultural operations throughout Hardee County including citrus operation, nursery, and phosphate mining operation where the land was reclaimed and is being used for cattle production. Participants learned about the intricacies of each operation and how they recovered from Hurricane Irma.