

C&E
904

2949305403401 9

Form **990**

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

OMB No 1545-0047

2017

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.

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

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

A For the 2017 calendar year, or tax year beginning **October 1**, 2017, and ending **September 30**, 20 **18**

B Check if applicable:
 Address change
 Name change
 Initial return
 Final return/terminated
 Amended return
 Application pending

C Name of organization **Farmers Educational & Cooperative Union Group Return**
 Doing business as
 Number and street (or P O box if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite
PO Box 2136
 City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code
Jamestown, ND 58402-2136

D Employer identification number
23-7024830

E Telephone number
701-252-2340

G Gross receipts \$

F Name and address of principal officer **Mark Watne**
PO Box 2136 Jamestown, ND 58402-2136

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 ▶ **1818**

I Tax-exempt status 501(c)(3) 501(c) (**5**) ◀ (insert no) 4947(a)(1) or 527

J Website: ▶

K Form of organization Corporation Trust Association Other ▶

L Year of formation **1927** **M** State of legal domicile **ND**

Part I Summary		Prior Year	Current Year
Activities & Governance	1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities: <u>Guided by the principles for cooperation, legislation and education.</u>		
	2 Check this box <input type="checkbox"/> 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	
	4 Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	4	
	5 Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2017 (Part V, line 2a)	5	0
	6 Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	6	5120
	7a Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	7a	0
b Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34	7b	0	
Revenue	8 Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	98,503	121,075
	9 Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	339,138	268,612
	10 Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	4,920	6,116
	11 Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	0	0
	12 Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	442,561	395,803
Expenses	13 Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1–3)	20,365	18,129
	14 Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)	113,998	119,516
	15 Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5–10)	0	0
	16a Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)	0	0
	b Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25)		
	17 Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a–11d, 11f–24e)	287,233	349,238
	18 Total expenses. Add lines 13–17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	421,596	486,883
19 Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 18 from line 12	20,965	-91,080	
Net Assets or Fund Balances	20 Total assets (Part X, line 16)	Beginning of Current Year	End of Year
	21 Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	1,610,996	1,519,918
	22 Net assets or fund balances. Subtract line 21 from line 20	1,610,996	1,519,918

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

Signature of officer: *Mark Watne*
 Date: _____
 Type or print name and title: *President*

Paid Preparer Use Only

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

SCANNED MAR 25 2019

RECEIVED
 FEB 19 2019
 OGDEN, UT
 IRS-OSC

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

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

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission:

The county organizations are guided by the principals of cooperation, legislation and education. The counties are committed to the prosperity of family farms, ranches and rural communities.

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 \$ _____)

Education programs: These programs include the sponsoring of various seminars and youth education programs, including classes and educational camp programs.

4b (Code: _____) (Expenses \$ _____ including grants of \$ _____) (Revenue \$ _____)

Cooperative programs: The counties promote and develop their local cooperatives to increase the financial bargaining of agriculture and rural people.

4c (Code: _____) (Expenses \$ _____ including grants of \$ _____) (Revenue \$ _____)

Legislation: They work with elected officials to voice their opinions of rural people on agricultural issues

4d Other program services (Describe in Schedule O.)

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

4e Total program service expenses **▶**

CIO

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Contains 19 numbered questions regarding organizational requirements and schedules, with checkboxes for 'Yes' and 'No'.

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules *(continued)*

	Yes	No
20 a Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule H</i>		✓
b If "Yes" to line 20a, did the organization attach a copy of its audited financial statements to this return?		✓
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>	✓	
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>		✓
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>		✓
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>		✓
b Did the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception?		
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?		
d Did the organization act as an "on behalf of" issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year?		
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>		
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>		
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>		✓
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>		✓
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>		✓
b A family member of a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i>		✓
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>		✓
29 Did the organization receive more than \$25,000 in non-cash contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M</i>		✓
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>		✓
31 Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I</i>		✓
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>		✓
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>		✓
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>		✓
35a Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?		✓
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>		
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>		
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>		✓
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.	✓	

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

Table with columns for line numbers (1a-14b), descriptions of questions, and Yes/No checkboxes. Includes sections for Form 1096, Form W-2G, backup withholding, Form W-3, unrelated business gross income, foreign accounts, prohibited tax shelter transactions, and Form 8282.

Part VI Governance, Management, and Disclosure For each "Yes" response to lines 2 through 7b below, and for a "No" response to line 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

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 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		
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?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4 Did the organization make any significant changes to its governing documents since the prior Form 990 was filed?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5 Did the organization become aware during the year of a significant diversion of the organization's assets?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6 Did the organization have members or stockholders?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
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?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
b Are any governance decisions of the organization reserved to (or subject to approval by) members, stockholders, or persons other than the governing body?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8 Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year by the following:		
a The governing body?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
b Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
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>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
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?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
11a Has the organization provided a complete copy of this Form 990 to all members of its governing body before filing the form?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
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>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
b Were officers, directors, or trustees, and key employees required to disclose annually interests that could give rise to conflicts?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
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>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
13 Did the organization have a written whistleblower policy?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
14 Did the organization have a written document retention and destruction policy?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
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		
b Other officers or key employees of the organization		
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?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?		

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 Forms 1023 (or 1024 if applicable), 990, and 990-T (Section 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: ►
Tania Falk 701-252-2340 PO Box 2136 Jamestown, ND 58402-2136

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, and 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) <u>Mark Watne, President</u> 2107 3rd St NE, Jamestown, ND 58401										
(2) <u>Robert Kuylen, Vice President</u> PO Box 273, South Heart ND 58655-0273										
(3) <u>Terry Borstad, Treasurer</u> 508 Lake View Dr, Devils Lake, ND 58301										
(4) <u>Wesley Niederman, Secretary</u> PO Box 217, Elgin, ND 58533-0217										
(5) <u>Ronda Throener, Director</u> 8751 125th Ave SE, Coqswell, ND 58017										
(6) <u>Shane Sickler, Director</u> 2410 98th Ave SW, Gladstone, ND 58630-9379										
(7) <u>Tyler Stafslie, Director</u> 2887 59th Ave NW, Ryder, ND 58779										
(8) <u>Ryan Taylor, Director</u> 5435 13th Ave NE, Towner, ND 58788-9161										
(9) <u>Michelle Ziesch, Director</u> 4530 14th St SE, Pettibone, ND 58475										
(10) <u>The above officers are elected at large by members representing the whole membership</u>										
(11) <u>organization for Farmers Educational & Cooperative Union of AM ND Division and are</u>										
(12) <u>officers for that parent company from which the president receives a salary and the officer and</u>										
(13) <u>directors work part-time on a per diem basis. They are not compensated by any of the</u>										
(14) <u>county sub-divisions for which this filing is done</u>										

Part VII Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees (continued)

(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			
(15)										
(16)										
(17)										
(18)										
(19)										
(20)										
(21)										
(22)										
(23)										
(24)										
(25)										
1b Sub-total										
c Total from continuation sheets to Part VII, Section A										
d Total (add lines 1b and 1c)										

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** Did the organization list any **former** officer, director, or trustee, key employee, or highest compensated employee on line 1a? *If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual*
- 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? *If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual*
- 5** Did any person listed on line 1a receive or accrue compensation from any unrelated organization or individual for services rendered to the organization? *If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such person*

	Yes	No
3		✓
4		✓
5		✓

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) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512-514	
Contributions, Gifts, Grants and Other Similar Amounts	1a Federated campaigns	1a					
	b Membership dues	1b	121,075				
	c Fundraising events	1c					
	d Related organizations	1d					
	e Government grants (contributions)	1e					
	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 ▶		121,075				
	Program Service Revenue	2a Educational Programs		188,956			
b Misc Income		79,656					
c _____							
d _____							
e _____							
f All other program service revenue .							
g Total. Add lines 2a-2f ▶			268,612				
Other Revenue	3 Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts) ▶		6,116				
	4 Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds ▶						
	5 Royalties ▶						
	6a Gross rents	(i) Real	(ii) Personal				
		b Less: rental expenses					
		c Rental income or (loss)					
		d Net rental income or (loss) ▶					
	7a Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	(i) Securities	(ii) Other				
		b Less cost or other basis and sales expenses					
		c Gain or (loss)					
		d Net gain or (loss) ▶					
	8a Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ _____ of contributions reported on line 1c). See Part IV, line 18 a						
		b Less: direct expenses b					
		c Net income or (loss) from fundraising events . . ▶					
	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 _____							
	b _____						
	c _____						
	d All other revenue						
	e Total. Add lines 11a-11d ▶						
12 Total revenue. See instructions ▶			395,803				

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	18,129			
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	119,516			
5 Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees				
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				
8 Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions)				
9 Other employee benefits				
10 Payroll taxes				
11 Fees for services (non-employees):				
a Management				
b Legal				
c Accounting				
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.)				
12 Advertising and promotion	26,791			
13 Office expenses	18,085			
14 Information technology				
15 Royalties				
16 Occupancy	2,547			
17 Travel	113,123			
18 Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials				
19 Conferences, conventions, and meetings	104,341			
20 Interest				
21 Payments to affiliates	16,443			
22 Depreciation, depletion, and amortization				
23 Insurance	6,262			
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 MISC	40,154			
b Contracted Staff	21,492			
c				
d				
e All other expenses				
25 Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24e	486,883			
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 <input type="checkbox"/> 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	498,262	1	418,939	
	2 Savings and temporary cash investments	1,112,734	2	1,095,179	
	3 Pledges and grants receivable, net		3		
	4 Accounts receivable, net		4		
	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		9		
	10a Land, buildings, and equipment, cost or other basis. Complete Part VI of Schedule D	10a			
	b Less: accumulated depreciation	10b		10c	
	11 Investments—publicly traded securities		11		
	12 Investments—other securities. See Part IV, line 11		0	12	5,800
	13 Investments—program-related. See Part IV, line 11		13		
	14 Intangible assets		14		
	15 Other assets. See Part IV, line 11		15		
16 Total assets. Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34)		1,610,996	16	1,519,918	
Liabilities	17 Accounts payable and accrued expenses		17		
	18 Grants payable		18		
	19 Deferred revenue		19		
	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		
	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		26		
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Organizations that follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34.				
	27 Unrestricted net assets		27		
	28 Temporarily restricted net assets		28		
	29 Permanently restricted net assets		29		
	Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here <input type="checkbox"/> 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		1,610,996	32	1,519,918
33 Total net assets or fund balances		1,610,996	33	1,519,918	
34 Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances		1,610,996	34	1,519,918	

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	395,803
2	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2	486,883
3	Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 2 from line 1	3	-91,080
4	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 33, column (A))	4	1,610,996
5	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	5	2
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	1,519,918

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: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Accrual <input type="checkbox"/> 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: <input type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b 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: <input type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c 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.		
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? . . .		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b 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.		

SCHEDULE C
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Political Campaign and Lobbying Activities

OMB No 1545-0047

2017

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

For Organizations Exempt From Income Tax Under section 501(c) and section 527

Open to Public Inspection

▶ **Complete if the organization is described below.** ▶ **Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.**
▶ **Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.**

If the organization answered "Yes," on Form 990, Part IV, line 3, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 46 (Political Campaign Activities), then

- Section 501(c)(3) organizations Complete Parts I-A and B. Do not complete Part I-C
- Section 501(c) (other than section 501(c)(3)) organizations: Complete Parts I-A and C below. Do not complete Part I-B
- Section 527 organizations Complete Part I-A only

If the organization answered "Yes," on Form 990, Part IV, line 4, or Form 990-EZ, Part VI, line 47 (Lobbying Activities), then

- Section 501(c)(3) organizations that have filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)) Complete Part II-A. Do not complete Part II-B
- Section 501(c)(3) organizations that have NOT filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)) Complete Part II-B Do not complete Part II-A

If the organization answered "Yes," on Form 990, Part IV, line 5 (Proxy Tax) (see separate instructions) or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 35c (Proxy Tax) (see separate instructions), then

- Section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6) organizations: Complete Part III

Name of organization Farmers Educational & Cooperative Group Return	Employer identification number 23-7024830
---	---

Part I-A Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c) or is a section 527 organization.

- 1 Provide a description of the organization's direct and indirect political campaign activities in Part IV. (see instructions for definition of "political campaign activities")
- 2 Political campaign activity expenditures (see instructions) ▶ \$
- 3 Volunteer hours for political campaign activities (see instructions)

Part I-B Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(3).

- 1 Enter the amount of any excise tax incurred by the organization under section 4955 ▶ \$
- 2 Enter the amount of any excise tax incurred by organization managers under section 4955 ▶ \$
- 3 If the organization incurred a section 4955 tax, did it file Form 4720 for this year? Yes No
- 4a Was a correction made? Yes No
- b If "Yes," describe in Part IV.

Part I-C Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c), except section 501(c)(3).

- 1 Enter the amount directly expended by the filing organization for section 527 exempt function activities ▶ \$
- 2 Enter the amount of the filing organization's funds contributed to other organizations for section 527 exempt function activities ▶ \$
- 3 Total exempt function expenditures. Add lines 1 and 2. Enter here and on Form 1120-POL, line 17b ▶ \$
- 4 Did the filing organization file **Form 1120-POL** for this year? Yes No
- 5 Enter the names, addresses and employer identification number (EIN) of all section 527 political organizations to which the filing organization made payments. For each organization listed, enter the amount paid from the filing organization's funds. Also enter the amount of political contributions received that were promptly and directly delivered to a separate political organization, such as a separate segregated fund or a political action committee (PAC). If additional space is needed, provide information in Part IV.

(a) Name	(b) Address	(c) EIN	(d) Amount paid from filing organization's funds If none, enter -0-	(e) Amount of political contributions received and promptly and directly delivered to a separate political organization If none, enter -0-
(1)			
(2)			
(3)			
(4)			
(5)			
(6)			

Part II-A Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(3) and filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)).

- A** Check if the filing organization belongs to an affiliated group (and list in Part IV each affiliated group member's name, address, EIN, expenses, and share of excess lobbying expenditures)
- B** Check if the filing organization checked box A and "limited control" provisions apply.

Limits on Lobbying Expenditures (The term "expenditures" means amounts paid or incurred.)		(a) Filing organization's totals	(b) Affiliated group totals												
1a	Total lobbying expenditures to influence public opinion (grass roots lobbying)														
b	Total lobbying expenditures to influence a legislative body (direct lobbying)														
c	Total lobbying expenditures (add lines 1a and 1b)														
d	Other exempt purpose expenditures														
e	Total exempt purpose expenditures (add lines 1c and 1d)														
f	Lobbying nontaxable amount. Enter the amount from the following table in both columns.														
<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:</th> <th style="text-align: left;">The lobbying nontaxable amount is:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Not over \$500,000</td> <td>20% of the amount on line 1e</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000</td> <td>\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000</td> <td>\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000</td> <td>\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$17,000,000</td> <td>\$1,000,000.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:	The lobbying nontaxable amount is:	Not over \$500,000	20% of the amount on line 1e	Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000	\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000	Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000	\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000.	Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000	\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000	Over \$17,000,000	\$1,000,000.		
If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:	The lobbying nontaxable amount is:														
Not over \$500,000	20% of the amount on line 1e														
Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000	\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000														
Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000	\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000.														
Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000	\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000														
Over \$17,000,000	\$1,000,000.														
g	Grassroots nontaxable amount (enter 25% of line 1f)														
h	Subtract line 1g from line 1a. If zero or less, enter -0-														
i	Subtract line 1f from line 1c. If zero or less, enter -0-														
j	If there is an amount other than zero on either line 1h or line 1i, did the organization file Form 4720 reporting section 4911 tax for this year?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No												

4-Year Averaging Period Under section 501(h)
(Some organizations that made a section 501(h) election do not have to complete all of the five columns below. See the separate instructions for lines 2a through 2f.)

Lobbying Expenditures During 4-Year Averaging Period					
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2014	(b) 2015	(c) 2016	(d) 2017	(e) Total
2a Lobbying nontaxable amount					
b Lobbying ceiling amount (150% of line 2a, column (e))					
c Total lobbying expenditures					
d Grassroots nontaxable amount					
e Grassroots ceiling amount (150% of line 2d, column (e))					
f Grassroots lobbying expenditures					

Part II-B Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(3) and has NOT filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)).

For each "Yes," response on lines 1a through 1i below, provide in Part IV a detailed description of the lobbying activity.

	(a)		(b)
	Yes	No	Amount
1 During the year, did the filing organization attempt to influence foreign, national, state or local legislation, including any attempt to influence public opinion on a legislative matter or referendum, through the use of:			
a Volunteers?			
b Paid staff or management (include compensation in expenses reported on lines 1c through 1i)?			
c Media advertisements?			
d Mailings to members, legislators, or the public?			
e Publications, or published or broadcast statements?			
f Grants to other organizations for lobbying purposes?			
g Direct contact with legislators, their staffs, government officials, or a legislative body?			
h Rallies, demonstrations, seminars, conventions, speeches, lectures, or any similar means?			
i Other activities?			
j Total. Add lines 1c through 1i			
2a Did the activities in line 1 cause the organization to be not described in section 501(c)(3)?			
b If "Yes," enter the amount of any tax incurred under section 4912			
c If "Yes," enter the amount of any tax incurred by organization managers under section 4912			
d If the filing organization incurred a section 4912 tax, did it file Form 4720 for this year?			

Part III-A Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(4), section 501(c)(5), or section 501(c)(6).

	Yes	No
1 Were substantially all (90% or more) dues received nondeductible by members?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2 Did the organization make only in-house lobbying expenditures of \$2,000 or less?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3 Did the organization agree to carry over lobbying and political campaign activity expenditures from the prior year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Part III-B Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(4), section 501(c)(5), or section 501(c)(6) and if either (a) BOTH Part III-A, lines 1 and 2, are answered "No," OR (b) Part III-A, line 3, is answered "Yes."

1 Dues, assessments and similar amounts from members	1	
2 Section 162(e) nondeductible lobbying and political expenditures (do not include amounts of political expenses for which the section 527(f) tax was paid).		
a Current year	2a	
b Carryover from last year	2b	
c Total	2c	
3 Aggregate amount reported in section 6033(e)(1)(A) notices of nondeductible section 162(e) dues	3	
4 If notices were sent and the amount on line 2c exceeds the amount on line 3, what portion of the excess does the organization agree to carryover to the reasonable estimate of nondeductible lobbying and political expenditure next year?	4	
5 Taxable amount of lobbying and political expenditures (see instructions)	5	

Part IV Supplemental Information

Provide the descriptions required for Part I-A, line 1; Part I-B, line 4; Part I-C, line 5; Part II-A (affiliated group list); Part II-A, lines 1 and 2 (see instructions); and Part II-B, line 1. Also, complete this part for any additional information.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Part IV Supplemental Information *(continued)*

Area with horizontal dashed lines for supplemental information.

**SCHEDULE I
(Form 990)**

**Grants and Other Assistance to Organizations,
Governments, and Individuals in the United States**

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 21 or 22.

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization

Farmers Educational & Cooperative Union Group Return

Part I General Information on Grants and Assistance

- 1** Does the organization maintain records to substantiate the amount of the grants or assistance, the grantees' eligibility for the grants or assistance, and the selection criteria used to award the grants or assistance? Yes No
- 2** Describe in Part IV the organization's procedures for monitoring the use of grant funds in the United States.

Part II Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 21, for any recipient that received more than \$5,000. Part II can be duplicated if additional space is needed.

1 (a) Name and address of organization or government	(b) EIN	(c) IRC section (if applicable)	(d) Amount of cash grant	(e) Amount of non-cash assistance	(f) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)	(g) Description of non-cash assistance	(h) Purpose of grant or assistance
(1)							
(2)							
(3)							
(4)							
(5)							
(6)							
(7)							
(8)							
(9)							
(10)							
(11)							
(12)							

- 2** Enter total number of section 501(c)(3) and government organizations listed in the line 1 table ▶
- 3** Enter total number of other organizations listed in the line 1 table ▶

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

Cat. No 50055P

Schedule I (Form 990) (2017)

**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

Farmers Educational & Cooperative Union Group Return

Employer identification number

23-7024830

Form 990, Part VI, Section B, Line 11A: After the form is prepared a copy is distributed to all board members for their review. A reasonable amount of time is allowed for the board members to raise any questions or concerns regarding the form prior to filing the return.

Form 990, Part VI, Section C, Line 19: The organization makes its governing documents, conflict of interest policy, as well as financial data available to the public upon request. Requests are to be submitted to the Chief Accounting & Investment Officer.

Form 990, Part VI, Section A, Line 6: The counties have members who pay annual dues and are entitled to attend the annual convention and elect the board of directors and approve changes to policy. They are also able to have their children attend educational camps.

Form 990, Part VI, Section A, Line 7a: The board is selected at the annual convention by members

Form 990, Part VI, Section B, Line 12c: The board is required to complete the annual conflict of interest disclosure annually at the January quarterly board meeting. Any conflicts must be noted. Additionally if a board has a conflict that arises mid-year it is required to be disclosed the board manual specifically addresses conflict of interest disclosure requirements.

Form 990, Part XI, Line 5: New unrealized gain on investments was \$2.00

