

2/28/2022

Paradise Ag Supporters Board & Members,

You may not know that my husband, Tom, and I own our own business based in Roanoke, Grapevine, Coppel & Saginaw. Numerous times over the last 4 years, I have placed the demands of the Paradise FFA ahead of both professional and personal needs of our business & my family. The countless hours I have donated to the Paradise Ag Supporters & Paradise FFA, including many hours in the car buying supplies & running errands for the for the Ag Supporters and or FFA, using my gas, wear & tear on my vehicle & used hundreds of dollars in office supplies all at my own expense, are unmeasurable.

Since the beginning of the school year, President Ashley Hardy Byers, had claimed that to be recognized as a 501c3 organization, Paradise Ag supporters needed to have "proper financials including a profit & loss sheet, balance sheet, reconciliations with the bank, as well as detailed ins & outs of every transaction." Mr. Bradshaw repeatedly told her that the Paradise Ag Supporters are a volunteer organization and that those type of documents are not needed. As Treasurer for the PAS for the past 2 years, anytime the status of the Ag Supporters financial status was requested or a meeting was held, I have given the financial status of our organization to the penny, along with any outstanding payments and/or deposits.

To the point, claimed by Ashely Hardy Byers, that "proper financials including a profit & loss sheet, balance sheet, reconciliations with the bank, as well as detailed ins & outs of every transaction" were needed by the Secretary of the State approve the Paradise Ag Supporters as an official 501c3 organization in the State of Texas, is absolutely untrue and inaccurate. A letter from the Office of the Secretary of the State of Texas was dated on January 25, 2022 and received in the Ag Supporters PO Box after returning home from stock shows on Feb. 20th stating the "Paradise Ag Supporters application for formation for a nonprofit organization in Texas had been received, filed, conformed with the provisions of law and issued the certificate om the date of filing 11/22/2021." In other words, as of 11/22/21, the Paradise Ag Supporters are recognized as a non profit organization in the State of Texas with none of the financial documents that Ashely Hardy Byers claimed we needed by Texas Secretary of State. Melanie Tittor has a copy of the letter from the Texas Secretary of State and all other documents and resources that I have gathered over the past 2 years.

On Feb. 6th, a meeting of the Paradise Ag Supporters officers was called for Feb. 9th. President of the PAS, Ashley Hardy Byers, knew that multiple members would be unable to attend this meeting. Scott & Mindy Cox were in Mexico attending a wedding & I was with my family in San Antonio for the gilt show. Following this meeting the following email was sent to myself and other board members. Please see a portion of this email below:

"Tonight, the Paradise Ag Supporters Board had a meeting regarding several emergency items, one of those being financials for our organization. Since the beginning of the school year, the Paradise Ag Supporters Board has been asking for financials from you. During the first board meeting after our elections, the board discussed and voted that you would use the Excel Spreadsheet instead of QuickBooks. To date, you have not provided financials to this board. Proper financials for a 501c3 include a Profit & Loss sheet, balance sheet, reconciliations with the bank, as well as detailed ins and outs of every transaction.

Tonight, the board voted by majority and we would like to give you 30 days starting tomorrow, February 10, 2022, to produce proper financials to the board in their entirety. If those financials are not produced by March 10, 2022 the board has elected to take over the Treasurer's position and appoint someone new.

In addition, it is imperative that myself as well as Mindy and Dawn have immediate access to the bank account with username and password to be able to log on as well as Post Office Box keys."

The need for financials for the PAS was addressed above. Not one time has ANY other board member requested a key to the post office box for the PAS. Furthermore, the Paradise Ag Supporters who are on the signature card for the bank account for our organization have not requested online access to the account from me at any time. To gain access to the organizations account at First National Bank, the signers on the account only needed to request online access from the bank itself.

While I have not provided the unnecessary documents requested by Ashley Hardy Byers, as I have previously stated, an exact accounting of the Paradise Ag Supporters has been and could be supplied at any time when requested, just not in the unnecessary format as previously stated.

Most members and board members do not realize the demand and workload that the treasurer of the Paradise Ag supporters requires: most of these tasks are with little to no help. These tasks below have occupied 100s of hours my time, over multiple weeks and months.

June 2021-Feb. 2022

- Co-Coordinator of Eighter From Decatur Jackpot Fundraiser- largest fundraiser for Paradise Ag Supporters
- Purchase, distribution and collection of the money for 2 truckloads of shavings to most Paradise Swine Feeders and numerous other persons across North Texas
- Planned and organized the beginning of the year FFA Chapter meeting meal
- Processed Ag Supporter Memberships as well as assisted with Jr. FFA and Barn Deposits
- Processed All Pig Payments – over 110 pigs in the Chapter
- Organized Vet Barn Visits for Paradise Swine Feeders
- Wrote Public Relations Script and constructed Props for LDE Team and Held Practices at my Home
- Planned and Organized Fall Paradise Chapter meeting meal
- Assisted Major Stock Show Entries night, processed each individual entry for ALL species, copied entries, scanned entries, wrote checks for all entry fees and ensured that all entries were mailed before the deadlines for each stock show August through December
- Organized Wise County Swine Ear Tags Purchases for all FFA & 4-H organizations in Wise County
- Processed, Organized and distributed Swine Validation Paperwork for all organizations in Wise County
- Organized, prepared and facilitated Paradise FFA Chapter Officer Christmas Party at my home
- Organized the FFA Angel Tree.... (Found group, distributed information, collected gifts & money, purchased big gifts, delivered gifts)
- Paradise Project Show... (booking WC Fairgrounds, gathering sponsors [total of 19 sponsors – 18 of were procured by myself or my husband], organized set up, clean up, obtained prizes, judge, developed weight card entry procedures etc...) ***FOR THE RECORD – Ashley Hardy Byers, President of the Paradise Ag Buyers, DID NOT help with planning or attend the Project Show because she said that she would be at Cattleman's Congress in OKC with her daughter. Her daughter told multiple people, including our daughter that she attended the Congress by herself and her parents stayed at home.***
- Paradise Barn Dance (booking DJ, purchasing concession supplies, security, set up, clean up)

In the short time since Mr. Bradshaw's resignation, the Paradise Ag supporters, led by Ashley Hardy Byers, has begun to make extremely irresponsible financial decisions that I cannot support, including approving a debit card that can be used without restraints or approval & placed unreasonable demands on myself that cannot and should not be met by any person filling a volunteer position such as the Ag Supporters Treasurer.

Please know that my intention with every action I have taken and event that I have helped to lead for the Paradise Ag Supporters, has been to do what is best for our kiddos, both yours and mine, and to give them the best experiences possible.

With-that-being-said it is with a heavy heart that I hereby resign as Treasurer of the Paradise Ag Supporters, effective immediately. I made a final deposit on Sat 9/26 and emailed the bank to have myself removed from the PAS bank account at First National Bank and left the PO BOX key and PAS documents with Melanie Tittor. As rumors begin to circulate, as rumors often do in these type situations, please do not hesitate to contact me directly with any and all questions that may arise in this situation.

It has been an honor serving you and your FFA students;

Jamie Pennington