

FLORIDA BOARD OF EDUCATION

December 14, 2001

SUBJECT: Request to Purchase Property, University of Florida

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Approve the purchase of approximately 70 acres of land located in Polk County, Florida, and authorize the Chancellor, Division of Colleges and Universities, or his designee, to execute the documents required by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for the transaction.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Legislature has mandated the development of comprehensive research and education centers to be strategically located throughout the state in order to provide the faculty, facilities, and services necessary to increase the information and technology transfer capability to clientele and to reduce the response time to critical state and agriculture industry problems. Programs at the UF/IFAS Citrus Research and Education Center in Lake Alfred, Florida, serve the Central Florida area. The center and the approximate 70 acre parcel to be purchased are in close proximity to each other. The purchase of the additional land will benefit current programs by providing mature citrus trees, water capabilities, temperature controls, and soil types relevant to the Central Florida region. The University of Florida Board of Trustees, on September 7, 2001, affirmed the university president's authority to purchase, lease, and manage real property.

The purchase will be funded from the IFAS Relocation and Construction Trust Fund pursuant to Chapter 90-148, Laws of Florida. The purchase is contingent upon the approval of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund pursuant to Chapter 253, Florida Statutes, and will be made in accordance with the procedures of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

Supporting Documentation Included: President Charles E. Young's letter dated October 31, 2001

Facilitators/Presenters: Carl W. Blackwell

Other Support Documents Available: Location Map