

FLORIDA BOARD OF EDUCATION

December 14, 2001

SUBJECT: Request to Release and Surplus Property, University of Florida

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Approve the release of lease and surplus of a parcel of land containing approximately 69 acres at the Mid-Florida Research and Education Center of the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida, located in Sanford, Seminole County, Florida. 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 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 agricultural industry problems. As a result of "The Effectiveness of the Organizational Structure of the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences" study, it was decided to consolidate the programs located at Sanford to the UF/IFAS Mid-Florida Research and Education Center in Apopka, Florida. The construction of facilities to house the programs in Apopka was completed in July 2000. Seminole County is interested in obtaining the property to create a regional facility to include a park, storm water facility, created wetlands, public works storage yard, and environmental study center. UF/IFAS wishes to assist their efforts by requesting a release of lease and declaring the property surplus. The University of Florida Board of Trustees, on September 7, 2001, affirmed the university president's authority for leasing, managing, and disposing of real property.

Upon approval of this action and completion of the release of lease, land management responsibilities for the parcel reverts to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for future disposition to Seminole County. This transaction is subject to approval of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund and will be made in accordance with the procedures of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

Supporting Documentation Included: Letter from Dr. Charles Young dated November 7, 2001

Facilitators/Presenters: Carl W. Blackwell

Other Support Documents Available: Location Map