

RESOLUTION NO. 25-

The Establishment of a New Polk County Agri-Center and Certification that a New Polk County Agri-Center Serves a Public Purpose

WHEREAS, Polk County acknowledges the critical importance of offering diverse recreational and educational opportunities for all its citizens, particularly our youth; and recognizes the need to foster initiatives that enhance the quality of life and promote agricultural awareness within the community; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a new Ag-Center will serve as a hub for “agricultural education and promotion,” benefiting all citizens of Polk County by providing a dedicated space for programs that highlight the significance of agriculture, horticulture, livestock, and equestrian activities; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Florida Statute 288.1175, subsection 3, the term “agriculture education and promotion facility” refers to an exhibition hall, arena, civic center, exposition center, or other capital projects or facilities intended for exhibitions, demonstrations, trade shows, classrooms, civic events, and other activities that promote and educate the public on the state's agricultural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) actively encourages the collaboration of community organizations, local businesses, and volunteers in the development and operation of the new Polk County Ag-Center, a safe and inclusive facility that will foster constructive community engagement, provide valuable resources, and serve as a center for youth agricultural programming, personal development, leadership training, and overall community enrichment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners fully supports the establishment of a new Polk County Ag-Center and is committed to its success in promoting agricultural education and community growth. The Board of County Commissioners, after a public hearing, hereby certifies that a new Polk County Ag-Center serves a public purpose as an agriculture education and promotion facility.

DATED this 16th day of September 2025

Attest:

Stacy M. Butterfield, CLERK

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
POLK COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

By: _____
T.R. Wilson, Chairman