Ag museum to use PSE Foundation's $3,500 grant for sidewalk, electrical and floor work

Eastern Washington Agricultural Museum received a $3,500 grant from Puget Sound Energy Foundation for safety and operational enhancements at its second building on the Garfield County Fairgrounds.

Anne Walsh, environmental and communications manager in Puget Sound Energy's Dayton office, was in Pomeroy on Friday to present confirmation of the grant to EWAM members. "Puget Sound Energy Foundation supports local organizations, particularly those that have needs involving safety and operations," Anne said. "We’re excited to support the community and Garfield County history" through the museum.

Jay Freels, EWAM board president, said the funding from PSEF will be utilized on projects including the sidewalk between the new building and the original facility. The sidewalk, which will run on the west side, will make the new building wheelchair-accessible.

Also on the safety and operations enhancement agenda are electrical service, and floor treatment, Jay said. Lighting, exit signs, and outlets to improve safety and visibility.

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exhibits comprise the electrical items. The floor in the new building will have treatment and/or equipment to provide for oil and grease containment from vehicles and equipment.

Electrical work planning and implementation is presently in progress and projected for completion by Spring Farming Days on April 6 and 7. Sidewalk construction will start with warmer weather, and oil and grease control on floors is also already in progress.

Gary Cole of the museum board told Anne that "without people like (Puget Sound Energy Foundation) and the funding support, we couldn’t do a fraction of what we need."