



Extra insulation is only one of the factors contributing to energy-efficient buildings.

Photo by Adrienne Salinger

Officials speak on planning

Effective planning for population growth can contribute to economic development, Lane County officials told a meeting of the Legislative Committee on Trade and Economic Development Tuesday in Eugene.

Lane County Commissioner Bob Wood told the committee and staff members of the Institute for Policy Studies that land-use planning is necessary and it helps to minimize the cost of providing public services that would attract business and industry to a community.

State legislators, at the all-day meeting, listened to public comments and held a panel discussion on the state's role in stimulating economic development.

The committee considered such topics as the state's role in meeting declining resource bases, providing management and promoting diversified and rural development.

The committee also discussed the economic effects of recent mill closures in southwestern Oregon, with special emphasis on the closure of the Westfir Mill earlier last year.

The Cone-Breeden property development project was also discussed by committee members.

spokesman said the utility worked with the architect and engineer on the addition and inspected construction progress.

"This certification was strictly a trial as part of our research program. We don't know whether we will continue with commercial certification or not," the spokesman said.

plastic vapor barrier around the building and added insulation in the walls.

"It's going to be a much more comfortable building, as well as an energy saver," Schmaedick said. "There will be fewer drafts, no cold spots, and the humidity will be regulated at 50 percent by a dehumidifier."

It will also be quieter, he said, because outside noises won't penetrate the insulated walls. "It will be a more pleasant building to work in," Schmaedick added.

Renovation of the existing building and the new construction were planned to accommodate the handicapped — entrances, doorways and restrooms on the ground floor are all wheel-chair accessible.

An EWEB Conservation Center

Eugene's first energy-efficient commercial building was certified by the Eugene Water and Electric Board (EWEB) Tuesday.

The energy-efficient certification was given to the new 4,400 square foot addition to the existing Rams Real Estate building at 315 West Broadway.

EWEB Commissioner Calvin Smith and Earl Ritter of EWEB's Conservation Center presented the certification award to Ron Schmaedick, owner of the building.

"We expect our fuel bills for heating and cooling to run about two-thirds of what would be normal for this type of building," Schmaedick said.

Special features of the addition include an insulated foundation, a

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