



REGULATORY AGENCY ACTION

bara and also at its September 22 meeting in San Diego, the Board considered whether to approve two embalming schools: The Institute of Funeral Service (Houston) and the Southwest Academy of Technology (Phoenix). Both of these embalming schools are home-study groups.

For approximately nine years, the Board has relied exclusively on the American Board of Funeral Service Education's (ABFSE) accreditation in determining which embalming schools it recognizes. However, the ABFSE only has jurisdiction over campus-based schools, and will not attempt to certify any off-campus programs.

Some industry members feel home-study students do not obtain enough laboratory experience under proper supervision in a correspondence course program. In support of approval, however, others noted that there is currently a lack of qualified embalmers, and a committed individual who would take a correspondence course is the type needed in the industry. It was further noted that although it has been the practice of the Board to follow the ABFSE's recommendation, the Board is not compelled to rely solely on ABFSE accreditation. No final decision was made with respect to the two institutions.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

To be announced.

BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR GEOLOGISTS AND GEOPHYSICISTS

*Executive Officer: John E. Wolfe
(916) 445-1920*

The Board of Registration for Geologists and Geophysicists (BRGG) was created by statute in 1969. This eight-member Board licenses geologists and geophysicists and certifies engineering geologists. These designations are determined by examinations administered twice each year. The Board also has the power to discipline licensees who act in violation of the Board's licensing statutes. The Board may issue a citation to licensees or unlicensed persons for violations of Board rules. These citations may be accompanied by an administrative fine of up to \$2,500.

The Board is composed of five public members and three professional members. BRGG's staff consists of two full-time employees (Executive Officer John Wolfe and his secretary) and two part-time personnel. The Board's committees include the Professional Prac-

tices, Legislative, and Examination Committees. BRGG is funded by the fees it generates.

MAJOR PROJECTS:

Regulatory Changes. The Board's amendments to section 3031, Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations, which were approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL), went into effect on July 1. The changes require that an applicant complete the educational requirements set forth in sections 7841 and 7841.1 of the Business and Professions Code before the applicant may count his/her work as "professional experience." The repeals of various subsections of section 3031, which duplicated existing statutory language, also went into effect on July 1. (See CRLR Vol. 8, No. 3 (Summer 1988) p. 59 and Vol. 8, No. 2 (Spring 1988) p. 57 for details.)

Reciprocity Study. The Examination Committee reviewed a proposal for a reciprocity program with the Republic of the Philippines. It recommended that the Board not grant reciprocity because California's exam varies considerably from that given in the Philippines. The Committee felt that degrees from the Philippines' main universities should be recognized, however, and that qualified individuals should be allowed to sit for California's exam. The Board accepted the recommendation of the Examination Committee.

LEGISLATION:

AB 1860 (Waters), which would have required that mining engineers be registered with the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, died in committee. (See CRLR Vol. 8, No. 3 (Summer 1988) p. 59 for background information.)

RECENT MEETINGS:

At its July 11 meeting in Los Angeles, the Board elected its 1988-89 officers. Howard Spellman, Jr. was re-elected President, and Wayne Bartholomew was re-elected Vice-President.

Executive Director John Wolfe reported that the Board's newsletter was scheduled for release in September.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

To be announced.

BOARD OF GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND

*Executive Officer: Manuel Urena
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The Board of Guide Dogs for the Blind has three primary functions. The Board protects the blind guide dog user by licensing instructors and schools to ensure that they possess certain minimum qualifications. The Board also enforces standards of performance and conduct of these licensees as established by law. Finally, the Board polices unlicensed practice.

There are three guide dog schools in California. These schools train the blind in the use of guide dogs. Each school also trains its own dogs. Each blind person is then matched with a dog using factors such as size and temperament. To provide this specialized service, the schools must have special facilities, which are inspected by the Board members as needed.

The Board consists of seven members, two of whom must be dog users (Business and Professions Code section 7200).

LEGISLATION:

SB 2229 (Marks) was signed by the Governor on September 30 (Chapter 1595, Statutes of 1988). Existing law allows trainers of guide dogs to take the dogs for the purpose of training them to places of public access, such as housing, transportation, and other places of public accommodation. This bill extends this right to trainers of signal dogs for the deaf, service dogs for the physically disabled, and other appropriately trainable animals.

Current law does not require zoos or wild animal parks to allow entrance to guide dogs. However, they are required to provide kennel facilities for the guide dogs and free transportation to blind persons. This bill extends these provisions to signal dogs of deaf persons and service dogs of physically disabled persons. It also includes within the definition of wild animal park any marine, mammal, or aquatic park open to the public.

This bill also requires the Board to complete a study by June 30, 1990, regarding possible expansion of the Board's jurisdiction and revision of the Board's name to include signal dogs for the hearing impaired, service dogs for the physically disabled, and other appropriately trainable animals.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

To be announced.