



disposition is issued, as specified. This bill would permit the body to be held without issuance of a permit for not more than five working days after death, unless a permit for disposition is issued, as specified. AB 3858 passed the Assembly on June 1, and is pending in the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services at this writing.

RECENT MEETINGS:

At its April 14 meeting, the Board reviewed its proposed management by objectives (MBO) plan which was developed in response to a Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) directive advocating full participation in its overall MBO planning process. Specifically, the DCA issued a "mission statement" applicable to all boards, divisions, bureaus, and units, requiring each to protect the consumer by promoting and advocating the delivery of quality goods and services, fostering fair competition, and informing and involving the public. Each DCA agency must establish goals, develop specific objectives to accomplish the goals, and identify action steps or tasks with target dates for completing each task within the fiscal year.

The first goal proposed in the Funeral Board's draft MBO plan is to ensure protection and promote fair competition by improving licensing and enforcement services. The Board will partially accomplish its goal by providing accurate and timely responses to applicants for licensure. Specifically, the Board proposes to develop and implement a streamlined license issuance process and an automated enforcement and application tracking system by December 1988.

In addition, the Board will provide meaningful, accurate, and timely responses to complaints from all sources. Specifically, the Board proposes to develop and implement an automated complaint handling and tracking system by December 1988 and an administrative citation and fine system through the adoption of regulations by June 1989. (See *supra* MAJOR PROJECTS for further information.)

A second goal proposed in the Board's MBO plan is to improve internal and external communication to better inform and involve personnel, licensees, and the public. The Board hopes to accomplish its goal by providing licensees with current information regarding the laws and regulations affecting practice. Specifically, the Board proposes to edit and publish a compilation of the laws, rules, and regulations governing the funeral industry at least every other

year and to develop and publish a periodic newsletter. The MBO draft indicates December 1988 as the target date for completion of both tasks. (See CRLR Vol. 8, No. 1 (Winter 1988) p. 54 and Vol. 7, No. 4 (Fall 1987) p. 50 for related discussions.)

In addition, the Board will accomplish its second goal by providing the consuming public with useful and necessary information regarding funerals. Specifically, the Board proposes to develop and publish a consumer information guide by June 1989.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

September 22 in San Diego.

BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR GEOLOGISTS AND GEOPHYSICISTS

Executive Officer: John W. 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 Practices, Legislative, and Examination Committees. BRGG is funded by the fees it generates.

MAJOR PROJECTS:

Regulatory Changes. On June 8, the Office of Administrative Law approved the Board's amendments to section 3031, Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations. The changes specify that work cannot be counted as professional experience until the applicant has completed the educational requirements set forth in sections 7841 and 7841.1 of the Business and Professions Code. Also approved were repeals of various subsections of section 3031 which duplicated existing statutory language. (See CRLR Vol. 8, No. 2 (Spring 1988) p. 57 for more details.)

Consideration of Statutory Fee Increase. As of February 1988, BRGG is charging its statutory maximum of \$100 for initial registration and renewal fees. In order to raise its fees, the Board must obtain a statutory fee increase. The Board will ask the Professional Practices Committee to study the timing and amount of an appropriate fee increase, and to develop substantiating data to support an increase. The last statutory fee increase became effective in January 1983, at which time the fee limit was raised from \$80 to \$100.

LEGISLATION:

AB 1860 (Waters) would require that mining engineers be registered by the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors. To register, an applicant would have to meet specified qualifications and pass an examination. BRGG Executive Officer John Wolfe has expressed concern that the bill may cause confusion because a definition of mining engineers is not included in the bill. In addition, Wolfe stated that mining engineers would, in many instances, be performing the work of a geologist when they are not qualified to do so. AB 1860 is pending in the Senate Committee on Business and Professions, where it was amended on June 1 to specify that surveys made exclusively for mining and minerals would be exempt from licensure requirements contained in the Professional Land Surveyors' Act.

RECENT MEETINGS:

At its April 4 meeting in Los Angeles, the Board approved the revised Geologic Guidelines for Earthquake and/or Fault Hazard Reports. (For background information, see CRLR Vol. 8, No. 2 (Spring 1988) p. 57.) After reviewing the Board's Guidelines for Groundwater Investigative Reports, legal counsel Barbara King noted that the guidelines, as currently written, might constitute regulations as defined in the state Administrative Procedure Act, because some of the guideline language requires that the guidelines be followed. King will work with Executive Officer John Wolfe and make suggestions for changes.

The Board adopted a suggestion by the Professional Practices Committee that an informational brochure regarding BRGG be developed for distribution to the public.

The Board is considering the possibility of continuing education (CE) requirements for its licensees. The Professional Practices Committee is developing a plan to study the issue.



Meanwhile, letters have been sent to the professional associations to elicit their view on the addition of a CE requirement. The Board also decided to send questionnaires to BRGG's licensees with the next license renewal notices requesting information which may aid the Board in deciding whether CE is needed.

Board President Howard Spellman requested that the directory listing all of BRGG's licensees be updated. Executive Officer John Wolfe said that an updated directory could be compiled after the October-November license renewals.

The Board discussed current enforcement procedures, and several Board members commented that they do not completely understand the process which occurs when a licensee is investigated. In an effort to better understand the BRGG's current disciplinary procedures, Board member Thomas Slaven volunteered to examine the enforcement process by tracking actual cases, and will report to the Board on his perceptions.

The Board received a petition from Robert Walton requesting that rules be adopted which would allow licensed general contractors to conduct minimal subsurface investigation. The Board denied the petition on ground that BRGG does not have the legal authority to regulate in the area suggested by Walton.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

To be announced.

BOARD OF GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND

Executive Officer: Manuel Urena
(916) 445-9040

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).

MAJOR PROJECTS:

Regulatory Changes. The Office of Administrative Law (OAL) recently approved proposed changes affecting regulations contained in Chapter 22, Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations. The amendments, which were initially disapproved by OAL in March and approved in May upon resubmission, add sections 2260(a), 2261(a), and 2268(a) to the Board's regulations. The new provisions (1) provide an alternative method of determining experience required for licensure; (2) provide for examinations; and (3) define "financial responsibility" for schools wishing to solicit funds. (For background information, see CRLR Vol. 7, No. 3 (Summer 1987) p. 72.)

LEGISLATION:

SB 2229 (Marks) was amended April 14 and passed by the Senate on May 12. Existing law authorizes trainers of guide dogs to take the dogs to places of public access, such as housing, transportation, and other places of public accommodation, for purposes of training the dogs. This bill would extend this right to trainers of signal dogs for the deaf and service dogs for the physically disabled.

Existing law requires zoos and wild animal parks, which are not required to allow guide dogs to accompany blind persons onto their premises, to provide free transportation to the blind persons and adequate kennel facilities for their dogs, as specified. This measure would extend these provisions to signal dogs of deaf persons and service dogs of the physically disabled. The bill would also expand the definition of "wild animal park" to include any marine, mammal, or aquatic park open to the general public.

Finally, SB 2229 would require the Board to conduct a study concerning expansion of the Board's regulatory jurisdiction to include signal dogs for the deaf and hearing impaired, as well as service dogs for the physically disabled. SB 2229 is pending before the Assembly Committee on Human Services.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

To be announced.

BUREAU OF HOME FURNISHINGS AND THERMAL INSULATION

Chief: Gordon Damant
(916) 920-6951

The Bureau of Home Furnishings and Thermal Insulation (BHF) regulates manufacturers, wholesalers, dealers, upholsterers, retailers, renovators, and sterilizers of furniture and bedding. In addition, the Bureau establishes rules regarding labeling requirements approved by the state Department of Public Health pertaining to furniture and bedding.

To enforce its regulations, the Bureau has access to premises, equipment, materials, and articles of furniture.

The chief or any inspector may open, inspect and analyze the contents of any furniture or bedding and may condemn, withhold from sale, seize or destroy any upholstered furniture or bedding or any filling material found to be in violation of Bureau rules and regulations. The Bureau may also revoke or suspend registration for violation of its rules.

The Bureau is assisted by a thirteen-member Advisory Board consisting of seven public members and six industry representatives.

MAJOR PROJECTS:

Insulation Program Inspectors. Presently, the Bureau employs no field inspectors for its insulation regulation program established under AB 1311 (Johnson) (see CRLR Vol. 7, No. 4 (Fall 1987) p. 52). The Bureau requested two insulation program inspectors in its 1987-88 budget, along with two additional inspectors for the home furnishings program. The latter two positions were funded in the budget, but the insulation program inspector positions were not. It is expected that the Bureau will again seek funding for insulation inspectors in the 1989-90 fiscal year budget.

In the meantime, the Bureau will continue to monitor compliance with insulation regulations as it has since the inception of the program in 1987. Occasionally, home furnishings inspectors will obtain insulation samples for testing, as will the thermal insulation program manager and the program's chemist.

As of March 1988, licensees under the insulation program numbered 147, generating \$300,000 in annual revenue for the Bureau through license fees and fees for listing in the certification directory.

Consumer Education. A new slide presentation entitled "Regulations for Upholstered Furniture and Mattress