



REGULATORY AGENCY ACTION

Fund. (See CRLR Vol. 8, No. 2 (Spring 1988) pp. 74-75 for background information.)

Federal Legislation. In March, the U.S. Senate passed legislation to limit the use of polygraph tests by businesses to screen job applicants or employees. S. 1904 (Kennedy) has been reconciled with a broader House version, H.R. 1212 (Williams), passed last fall. President Reagan had until June 27 to decide whether to veto or sign the polygraph bill, which may not seriously affect polygraph examiners in California. State law already prohibits private employers from requesting polygraph tests "as a condition of employment or condition for continued employment."

RECENT MEETINGS:

The Board has not held a meeting since October 1987. Its June meeting was cancelled.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

To be announced.

BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS

Executive Officer: Darlene Stroup (916) 920-7466

The Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors regulates the practice of engineering and land surveying through its administration of the Professional Engineers Act and the Professional Land Surveyors' Act.

The basic functions of the Board are to conduct examinations, issue certificates and/or licenses and appropriately channel complaints against its licensees. The Board is additionally empowered to suspend or revoke certificates or licenses. On a routine basis, the Board considers the proposed decisions of administrative law judges who hear appeals of applicants who are denied registration and licensees who have had their licenses suspended or revoked for violations.

The Board consists of thirteen members: seven public members, one licensed land surveyor, four registered practice act engineers and one title act engineer. Eleven of the members are appointed by the Governor for four-year terms which expire on a staggered basis. One public member is appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly and one by the Senate President pro Tempore.

The Board has established seven standing committees dealing with land surveying and the various branches of

engineering. These committees, each composed of three Board members, approve or deny applications for examinations and register applicants who pass the examinations. Their actions must have the approval of the entire Board, which is routinely forthcoming.

Professional engineers are now licensed through the three Practice Act categories of civil, electrical and mechanical engineering under section 6730 of the Business and Professions Code, and the Title Act categories of agricultural, chemical, control system, corrosion, fire protection, industrial, manufacturing, metallurgical, nuclear, petroleum, quality, safety, and traffic engineering.

Structural engineering and soil engineering are linked to the civil Practice Act and require an additional examination after qualification as a Practice Act engineer.

MAJOR PROJECTS:

Redefining Title Act and Practice Act Categories. At its April 8 meeting, the Board approved a recommendation that the Civil, Electrical, and Land Surveyor Technical Advisory Committees (TACs) be assigned the responsibility to redefine the practices of each of their disciplines. The motion provided that "these assignments be given top priority in 1988-89."

In addition, at the request of a unanimous Examinations/Qualifications Committee chaired by Orville Paul, the Board considered creating a Mechanical Engineering TAC to update the definition of mechanical engineering. Upon the objection of mechanical engineer Robert E. Young, however, the Committee members withdrew their motion. Mr. Young argued that a ME-TAC would be an unnecessary additional expense. Currently, mechanical engineering is the only Practice Act category without a TAC.

Staff Recruitment. Executive Officer Stroup announced that she hired Scott Ewing as a staff civil engineer and was interviewing applicants for a staff mechanical engineer. The staff engineer vacancies were respectively due to resignation and disability retirement.

LEGISLATION:

AB 981 (Cortese), which incorporates city engineers with city surveyors within the Subdivision Map Act and the Professional Land Surveyors' Act, was chaptered on May 11 (Chapter 100, Statutes of 1988). (See CRLR Vol. 8, No. 2 (Spring 1988) p. 75.)

AB 1860 (Waters), which would pro-

vide for registration of persons practicing mining and minerals engineering, is still pending in the Senate Business and Professions Committee. The measure would also exempt from surveyor licensure requirements surveys made exclusively for mining and minerals.

AB 3876 (Bradley), which would amend section 8726 of the Business and Professions Code to clarify existing law, would add the coordination of work of professional, technical, or special consultants—in connection with activities authorized by the Land Surveyors' Act—to the description of the practice of land surveying. The bill remains pending in the Senate Business and Professions Committee.

AB 3882 (Bradley) amends sections 8764 and 8764.5 of the Business and Professions Code to require the surveyor or civil engineer preparing the record of survey, rather than the one filing the record, to attest to the survey's accuracy on the survey map. AB 3882 was chaptered on June 1 (Chapter 133, Statutes of 1988).

SB 617 (Greene), which would have added sections 678 and 8775 to the Business and Professions Code to grant Professional Engineer and Land Surveyors' Act registrants performing review services for public entities the same immunities from liability extended to public employees, failed passage in the Assembly Judiciary Committee on May 18.

RECENT MEETINGS:

At the April 8 meeting, Board President Dorsey nominated Vice-President and public member William Rupp and civil/structural member Albert Blaylock to serve as President and Vice-President for one-year terms beginning July 1, 1988. The Board was scheduled to vote on these nominations at its May 20 meeting.

Also on April 8, Mr. Rupp reported on the National Council of Engineering Examiners' (NCEE) Records Verification Committee meeting held February 12-13 in Atlanta, Georgia. In his written critique, Mr. Rupp reported that many states "accept" NCEE's registrant record verification service although "there are also boards who find the form inadequate or cumbersome."

FUTURE MEETINGS:

August 19 in Sacramento.
September 30 in Los Angeles.
November 18 in San Diego.