# REGULATORY AGENCY ACTION



to renewal, shall also pay a specified delinquency fee. This bill is pending in the Senate Business and Professions Committee.

SB 2220 (Dills), also pending in the Senate Business and Professions Committee, would delete statutory provisions which set forth the Board's obligation to repay a \$50,000 loan from the General Fund appropriated in 1986.

#### **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:**

Selection of Executive Officer. Pursuant to the Board's November 20 decision to invite its nine most preferred Executive Officer applicants to interview at their own expense, the Board interviewed seven interested applicants on January 22 in Sacramento. (See CRLR Vol. 8, No. 1 (Winter 1988) pp. 70-71 for background information.) Deliberating in open session, the Board selected Darlene Stroup, William Vizza, and Maurice Kruth as finalists and postponed further consideration until February 26 in Palm Springs. Mr. Vizza and Mr. Kruth are Board-registered civil engineers. Ms. Stroup applied as the Board's Acting Executive Director.

On February 26, the Board selected Darlene Stroup as Executive Officer. Ms. Stroup is a 1979 graduate of UC Davis. Before joining the Board's staff in December 1985 as Assistant Executive Officer, Ms. Stroup served at the State Personnel Board and the Department of Consumer Affairs in occupational testing and budget analysis positions.

# LEGISLATION:

AB 981 (Cortese), which would add section 66416.5 to the Government Code to include city engineers with city surveyors within the Subdivision Map Act and within the Professional Land Surveyors' Act, passed the Assembly on January 28 and is pending before the Senate Appropriations Committee at this writing.

AB 1860 (Waters), which would provide a definition for mining and minerals engineers under the Professional Engineers Act, is pending before the Senate Committee on Business and Professions.

SB 790 (Davis), which would have limited the liability of professional engineers in construction projects, was defeated in the Senate Judiciary Committee on January 19.

## **RECENT MEETINGS:**

The Board's January 22 meeting was limited to interviewing Executive Officer applicants.

At its February 26 meeting, in addition to selecting the Executive Officer, the Board adopted passing scores for the August Structural Engineering and October Professional Engineering, Land Surveyor in Training, and Engineer in Training examinations.

**FUTURE MEETINGS:** 

To be announced.

# BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING

Executive Officer: Catherine Puri (916) 322-3350

The Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) licenses qualified RNs, certifies qualified nurse midwifery applicants, establishes accreditation requirements for California nursing schools and reviews nursing school curricula. A major Board responsibility involves taking disciplinary action against licensed RNs.

The nine-member Board consists of three public members, three registered nurses actively engaged in patient care, one licensed RN administrator of a nursing service, one nurse educator and one licensed physician. All serve four-year terms.

The Board is financed by licensing fees, and receives no allocation from the general fund. The Board is currently staffed by 56 people.

### **MAJOR PROJECTS:**

Regulatory Changes. The BRN scheduled a March 21 public hearing in Sacramento regarding several proposed changes to its regulations in chapter 14, Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations. These changes would affect nurse faculty educational requirements; continuing education (CE) providers, instructors, courses, and attendees; and application processing timeframes for applications from nurse practitioners for a permit to furnish drugs and devices.

As amended, section 1425 would require nurse assistant instructors to hold a baccalaureate degree in nursing from an accredited college. Currently, section 1425(e) requires assistant instructors to hold a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college.

As amended, section 1451(d) would no longer permit CE instructors who attend a course for credit and also teach a portion of the course to receive CE credit. A change to section 1451.2(a) would enable RN students taking relevant academic courses to obtain CE credit from a non-BRN-approved pro-