



Oregon Geologist Examiner

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Next Board Meeting:

September 10, 2003

Sunset Center South
Conference Room
1193 Royvonne Ave. SE, # 24
Salem, Oregon

72nd Legislative Assembly Changes Geologist Examiners' Statute

On June 16, 2003, the Governor signed into law House Bill 2893. This bill was sponsored by Eugene Democrat Phil Barnhart on behalf of Mark Reed, Professor of Geology, University of Oregon. The Board of Geologist Examiners did not support the bill.

In a compliance case reviewed by the Board during calendar year 2002, the Board faced questions about an Administrative Rule on Public Testimony. In concluding the compliance case, the Board rescinded the rule on Public Testimony. The Board affirmed the need for further understanding about practice issue questions with regard to testimony, but determined that this could be accomplished through rules and policy.

Reed was uncomfortable with the Board's resolution. He wanted a "higher protection," one guaranteed by law. So he sought assistance from the Representative and Senator Tony Corcoran, Democrat, Cottage Grove. Senate Bill 572 was introduced by Corcoran on Reed's behalf. The Board believed that due process had occurred and that any Legislative Committee could review the facts of the case and recognize such. SB 572 was referred back to the Board and Reed. So Reed went to the House side and Barnhart participated faithfully on behalf of HB 2893. Reed pushed hard on his "right to free speech". This particular right tugs at all lawmakers' hearts. It was difficult for "regulated practice" to compete with "free speech". When HB 2893 passed the House Floor, it was assigned to the Senate General Government Committee. Senator Frank Morse, Republican, Corvallis spoke to the General Government Committee in opposition to the bill. But the Committee passed it out to the Senate Floor. The Board networked with registrants who in turn contacted their Senators to oppose this bill. HB 2893 passed on the Senate floor by a 17-13 margin.

The Board then contacted the Governor's office with their concerns, as the Governor's signature is the final action on any bill. But on June 16, 2003, Governor Kulongoski signed the bill into law. In signing the bill, the Governor attached a clarifying letter to Karen Minnis, Speaker of the House. In that letter, Governor Kulongoski stated:

"I interpret this bill to carve out a narrow exception to the 'public practice of geology' and I believe that the Legislature intended only a narrow exception. Under this bill, a person who testifies at a land use hear-

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Knight's Notes

Although the Board submitted only one bill to the 72nd Legislative Assembly, which did not make it to the committee, it was still a very active session due to HB 2893 and SB 572. Both bills were submitted on behalf of Mark Reed, Professor of Geology, University of Oregon (see related article, page 1).

Due to staff size, spending hours and hours lobbying at the Capital is not plausible. The daily work of the office is staff's priority. Board members have full time jobs and are generally not free to donate time beyond the commitment to carrying out the regular responsibilities of the Board. When it became apparent that the investment of additional energy was needed to respond to HB 2893, a few registrants were targeted and asked to become proactive in the legislative process. Thanks to the email, phone, fax and letter writing campaign promulgated by these registrants, the Senate floor almost defeated the HB 2893. **On behalf of the Board, THANK YOU to all of you that participated in this process.**

With the geology bills of the 72nd Legislative Assembly behind us, we must prepare for future sessions now. The meager budget of the Geology Board does not provide for hiring lobbyists. So the Board is seeking the names of those of you that are Oregon residents and are willing to be "in the loop" during the 73rd Legislative Session. You will receive regular updates of legislative bills affecting the Board and your active assistance will be solicited during the session. **Please notify the Board if you are willing to be placed on this Legislative Committee.** We are especially hopeful that those of you who assisted this past session will join this committee.

On another note, the Hydrogeology Report Guideline Committee, under the leadership of Board Member Eileen Webb, is well on their way to having the draft outline for the document. Upon completion, this guideline will be of assistance to both registrants and the Board. Registrants can reference the document in preparing their reports; the Board will evaluate complaints based on the guideline. It will be a win-win situation for everyone.

It is now time to look ahead. Exams are scheduled for October. If you or your staff is considering exams at some time in the future, *please note that application packets must be postmarked 120 days prior to the examination date!* This is a change from the July 1 and January 5 deadlines previously used.

Hope you are all enjoying the "lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer". In a flash, summer will be gone!

Susanna Knight
Administrator

Volunteers Shine!

A series of CEG Focus Groups were recently convened under the direction of two psychometricians. Volunteers representing the Oregon and Washington Boards joined together to expand the CEG examination question bank. The first group met April 29 and 30 in Vancouver, Washington. Two additional groups convened in Olympia, Washington, on June 16 & 17 and June 19 & 20. The Board would like to publicly thank the following CERTIFIED ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS who volunteered time to assist in this ongoing project:

Scott Billings
Tom Blackwood
Matt Brunengo
George Freitag
Doug Gless
Tom Kuper
David Michael
Gary Peterson
James Schick
David Scofield
Ruth Wilmoth.

The work of this Board happens through volunteers such as the above named registrants. The Board is currently seeking registrants to serve on a Legislative Committee and the Rules and Regulations Committee. The Board is also soliciting CEG volunteers to review and update the CEG Report Guidelines. Contact the Board office to volunteer.



VOLUNTEERS REQUESTED!

The Board is in need of volunteers for the following committees:

CEG Report Guideline Updates Committee
Rules and Regulations Committee
Legislative Committee

Email the Board Staff at osbge@osbge.org to volunteer!

Geologist Examiners' Statue Changes

(continued from page 1)

ing or other open public forum, or who comments upon information received by a public body during its decision making process, is not practicing geology merely by testifying or preparing to do so. I do not interpret this bill to provide any broader exception. For instance, this bill would not allow an unregistered geologist to conduct independent, site-specific studies of geological issues for any purpose beyond testifying at a land use hearing or other open public forum; such conduct would go beyond "testifying or preparing to testify" and would still constitute the 'public practice of geology'. I have shared this interpretation of House Bill 2893 with the Board of Geologist Examiners and have requested that the Board promulgate rules consistent with this interpretation."

National Exam Results Compiled

It was another quality showing for the candidates at the March 7, 2003, Oregon examination site. Of the 20 candidates for the Fundamental section of the ASBOG examination, Oregon had a 75% pass rate. The national total candidate pool of 514 saw a 60.5% pass rate. The pass rate of Oregon candidates was again above the national rate. Oregon also had a very high pass rate on the practice section of the ASBOG examination with 13 of 14 candidates receiving a passing score for a 92% pass rate. Of the 415 candidates sitting for the practice section of the ASBOG examination across the county, 301 passed the examination with a 72.5% pass rate.

Congratulations to all candidates who successfully passed the National ASBOG Examination on the March 2003 exam date.

Welcome New Registrants

The following new registrants have passed qualifying examinations for registration and have been added to the Board roster. The Board congratulates those listed and anticipates the practice of geology here in Oregon will be successful.

Bartlett , Cindy D.	G1958
Bianchin , James A.	G1989
Fiedorowicz , Brooke K.	G1885
Finucane , Kevin G.	G1963
Fisher , James E.	G1992
Fortuna , John H.	G2003
Haug , Brian J.	G1887
McConnell , Vickie Sue	G1995
Prior , Russell C.	G1999
Schatz , Jeffrey K.	G1983
Weber , Eric F	G2001
Yonaka , Brad E.	G2002

Andrieu , Kenneth D.	T1988
Cook , Jason G.	T1990
England , Tracy Joe	T1991
Gaston , Brent	T1993
Healy , Robert P.	T1994
Melady , Jason M.	T1996
O'Connor , Michael T.	T1998
Shoemaker , Scott	T2000

The Oregon Geology examination is administered four times each year and is required of those seeking registration in Oregon. The next Oregon Geology examination date is October 3, 2003, the date of the National ASBOG examination. The Oregon Board will administer the examinations in Salem at a location to be announced.

The Board Office Has Moved!

Effective May 1, 2003, the new address is:

Oregon State Board of Geologist Examiners
Sunset Center South
1193 Royvonne Avenue SE, #24
Salem, OR 97302

Our phone number remains the same: 503.566.2837
Our new fax number is: 503.485.2947



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Lapsed Licenses

Between the months of January and May 2003, the following registrations have lapsed.

Abbe, Tim, G1351 (5/31/2003)
Baumer II, Andrew R, G1710 (4/30/2003)
Burgess, Gregory T, G1549 (5/31/2003)
Garcia, Eric W, G1956 (2/28/2003)
Gilmour, William B, G1301 (2/28/2003)
Heule, Scott, E1515 (4/30/2003)
Horton, Paul D, G1522 (4/30/2003)
Hughes, Travis H, G1412 (3/31/2003)
Janczak, Laura L, T1971 (5/31/2003)
Michelson, Steven I, G1631 (4/30/2003)
Parodi, Margaret, G1187 (3/31/2003)
Relf, Michael M, G1409 (2/28/2003)

To practice in Oregon, a registration must be in an active status. If your name is listed above and you have renewed, *please contact the Board office*. There may be a database entry error in which your registration was not properly updated.

2003 Calendar of Upcoming Events

Sept. 10: Quarterly Board Meeting
Salem, Oregon

October. 3: Fall Date for National and State Exams

Oct. 30, 31: Council of Examiners, Jacksonville, Florida

Nov. 1, 2: National Meeting of Association of State
Boards of Geology
Jacksonville, Florida

December 5: Oregon Geology Exam
Salem, Oregon

December 10: Quarterly Board Meeting
Eugene, Oregon