TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS Legislative Committee Meeting

Hobby Building, Tower II, Suite 500 April 23, 2009, 5:00 p.m.

Meeting Summary

- A. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.
- B. Roll was called and a quorum was certified. Members present were Secretary/Treasurer Glenn Lowenstein, PG, Barbara Roeling, PG, Y. Lynn Clark, PG, Chair, and Greg Ulmer, JD.
- C. Members of the public in attendance were Matthew Cowan, PG, President of the Texas Association of Professional Geoscientists, and Charles Knobloch, PG, future Board member of TBPG. There were no comments from the public.
- D. Discussion and possible action on HB1 and SB1 related to the agency's appropriations: The conference committee members have not been appointed yet. Initial expectations are that if TBPG appropriations requests are to pass as currently considered in the Senate, TBPG would be required to raise fees approximately \$70 \$100 per license per year. Chairman Clark and Interim Executive Director Charles Horton will meet with the Governor's office regarding the agency's requests.
- E. Discussion and possible action on SB 940/HB 2821 relating to the regulation of the public practice of geoscience: This bill has passed in the Senate, and has been recommended to the Local and Consent Calendar in the House.
- F. Discussion and possible action on SB 941/HB 2820 relating to contracts by governmental entities for professional services relating to geoscience: This bill was passed out of the Senate. However, HB 2820 has a committee substitute which includes the addition of landscape architects to the bill, which could affect its passage.
- G. Discussion regarding bills related to the regulation of the practice of geoscience: A few bills that were highlighted that relate to the geoscience industry. It was requested that the progress of HB 1105 also be tracked, which relates to the Professional Procurement Act. Additionally, a chart will be created to show a better summary of the geoscience bills that have been filed and their subsequent progress.
- H. Discussion and possible action on bills related to agency function: Some bills have been filed related to state travel policies, public information law, and online agency reports. If passed, they may affect operational procedures of the agency.
- I. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.