

MINUTES OF MEETING - ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC RESOURCES COMMITTEE
56TH ASSEMBLY SESSION - FEBRUARY 24, 1971

PRESENT: Homer, Getto, Ronzone, Bryan, Dini, Fry, Olsen, Swackhamer

ABSENT: Lowman

GUESTS: Dr. Vernon Scheid—Director of Nevada Bureau of Mines,
Dr. Baker—Associate Director of Nevada Bureau of Mines

Chairman Homer called the meeting to order at 8:05 A.M. for the purpose of discussing A.B. 369 which changes the name of Bureau of Mines to Bureau of Mines and Geology.

Dr. Scheid along with Dr. Baker were present to testify before the Committee and to present five points for suggested revision of the Nevada Bureau of Mines law. He commented that many people have felt the law was out of date and should be made current. People, especially those dealing with mining and geology, have felt this way for over a decade. The revisions have been put before the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada and were approved. Dr. Scheid was present with their support and approval.

The proposed five points for revision are as follows:

1. To change the name from the Nevada Bureau of Mines to the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology.
The reason for this would be to more adequately express the purpose of the Bureau. It is the center of geological information in the State and most people are not aware of that because the name is misleading.
2. To redefine the qualifications of the Director.
3. To restate and modernize the duties of the Bureau.
4. Recognize the policies which have been in effect for the dissemination of information.
5. Transfer the law governing the Nevada Bureau of Mines from Chapter 514 to 396.600.

Dr. Scheid then added that these were simple changes but they would help the Bureau to better aid ecology, fish and game, and other kindred matters. He also commented that these revisions were just an updating—not an addition of or change in duties.

Questions were then raised about the appropriation and spending of funds. Dr. Scheid informed the Committee that approximately \$10,000 is appropriated each year through the Board of Regents. This money goes into the business office of the State of Nevada. Then, as it is needed, it is drawn against. It goes through the regular accounting procedure established by the Board of Regents. He added that each year the Bureau runs out of funds and they keep asking for more money as costs keep rising.

Mr. Bryan then asked Dr. Scheid how much money does the Bureau realize from the sale of the printed reports.

Dr. Scheid informed the Committee that \$15,000 to \$19,000 was realized a year from sales. He added that \$28,000 was spent during 1969-1970 and \$17,000 had been spent thus far this year.

Mr. Getto then asked if these proposed revisions to the law would necessitate an increase in the budget. Dr. Scheid responded that it would not because the Bureau would not be doing anything more than what it is already doing.

Chairman Homer then made a comment that being involved with environment, along with it comes assessment work. At this point, Dr. Scheid made the statement that this was discussed and that it was their opinion that a better answer could be provided than is presently true.

Mr. Bryan asked whether there was any indication of opposition to this bill.

The Committee than unanimously voted do pass on A.B. 369.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 A.M.

jb

OK
Thanks Joan

J. C. KINNEAR
Honorary President

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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PAUL GEMMILL
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

November 19, 1970

POST OFFICE BOX 2498
TELEPHONE 323-8575

Dr. Vernon Scheid
Director-Nevada Bureau of Mines
Mackay School of Mines
University of Nevada
Reno, Nevada 89507

Dear Dr. Scheid:

I have had your letter of September 23, 1970 and the revised copy of the statutes of the State of Nevada concerning the Bureau of Mines for some while, but have not had an opportunity to answer it until today.

I have talked to many of the directors of the Nevada Mining Association and they all agree with me that the changes you suggest in your letter are advisable and should be made. I have found no one in our association who objects to the changes you suggest and I, myself, am heartily in favor of them.

You can be sure of the support of the members of the Nevada Mining Association in your efforts to modernize the Nevada statutes concerning the Nevada Bureau of Mines.

Very truly yours



H. R. Burch
President

HRB:lp
cc: Mr. Paul Gemmill

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MACKAY SCHOOL OF MINES

Alaska Division of Mines & Minerals

California Division of Mines and Geology

Idaho Bureau of Mines and Geology

Missouri Division of Geological Survey and Water Resources

Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology

Nevada Bureau of Mines

New Jersey Bureau of Geology and Topography

New Mexico Bureau of Mines and Mineral Resources

Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

Pennsylvania Bureau of Topographic and Geological Survey

Utah Geological and Mineralogical Survey

Washington Division of Mines and Geology

Wyoming Geological Survey

Suggested Revision of Nevada Bureau of Mines Law

xxxxxx = Material to be eliminated is in brackets.

xxxxxxx = Material to be added has dashed underscoring.

BUREAU OF MINES

514.010 Bureau of mines and geology established. There is hereby established a bureau of mines and geology of the State of Nevada, which shall be under the direction of the board of regents of the University of Nevada.

(Part 1:127:1935; 1931 NCL § 4311.01)

514.020 Compensation, expenses of university regents. Members of the board of regents shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for the actual expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties.

(Part 1:127:1935; 1931 NCL § 4311.01)

514.030 Employment, compensation of director, other employees.

1. The board of regents shall appoint as Director a competent mining engineer scientist or engineer who shall be a graduate of a recognized college or university with a degree in some branch of earth science or mineral engineering to be known as the director of the bureau of mines and geology.

2. Upon the director's nomination, the board of regents shall employ such assistants and employees as the board shall deem necessary.

3. The board of regents may also determine the compensation of all persons employed by the bureau of mines and geology, and may remove them at will.

(Part 1:127:1935; 1931 NCL § 4311.01)

514.040 Objectives of bureau of mines and geology. The bureau of mines and geology shall:

1. Serve as a bureau of information and exchange on Nevada /mining/ mineral industry, mineral resources and geology.

2. By questionnaire, field investigations, laboratory studies or otherwise, conduct a thorough /mineral/ survey of the mineral resources and geology of the state. /and catalog each mineral deposit survey of the state and occurrence, both metallic and non-metallic, of whatever nature, together with its location and the name and address of the discoverer, owner or agent. The bureau of mines shall make an analysis of the same and determine its constituent parts only, for the prospector or owner when so requested./ Apply geologic engineering principles to problems of conservation, environment, construction, mineral industry and other scientific matters that may be of importance to the welfare of the state. Make studies of mineral materials to determine the most economical and practical methods of concentrating and processing these resources and to promote their conservation.

3. Collect, in collaboration with the Mackay School of Mines, a library /of/ and bibliography of all literature pertaining to Nevada /mining and/ mineral industry, geology and mineral resources.

4. Collect, in collaboration with the Mackay School of Mines, typical geological and mineralogical specimens and models, drawings and descriptions of appliances used in the mineral industry and earth science. Collections of /geological and mineralogical specimens/ these materials may be maintained and displayed elsewhere within or without the State.

5. Provide for the /education of the miner and prospector/ dissemination of information on the mineral industry, geology and mineral resources of the state through lectures and publications.

6. Collect models, drawings and descriptions of appliances used in mining and metallurgical work. Consult with, advise and assist state and local governmental agencies on geological problems of importance to the citizens of Nevada.

7. Consider such other kindred scientific and economic questions as in the judgement of the board of regents shall be deemed of value to the people of the state.

(2:127:1935; 1931 NCL § 4311.02)

514.050 Cooperation of state departments. All departments of the state government shall render full cooperation to the bureau of mines and geology in the acquisition and compilation of all data required by NRS 514.040.

(3:127:1935; 1931 NCL § 4311.03)

514.060 Agreements with United States Geological Survey.

1. The director of the bureau of mines and geology, for and on behalf of the State of Nevada, with the approval of the governor, is authorized to enter into agreements with the United States Geological Survey for cooperation in investigating mineral and geological conditions within the state and in the topographic and geologic mapping of Nevada. The expenses of such work shall be divided between the parties upon a basis whereby the State of Nevada will not pay more than 50 percent of such expenses.

2. Funds to carry out the provisions of this section shall be provided by direct legislative appropriation from the general fund.

3. All claims against such appropriated funds shall be approved by the director of the bureau of mines and geology, and, when thereafter approved by the state board of examiners, shall be paid in the same manner as other claims against the state.

(1:40:1953) + (2:40:1953) + (3:40:1953)

514.070 Reports: Distribution and sale.

1. The board of regents shall cause to be prepared an annual report showing the progress and condition of the bureau of mines and geology, together with such other information as the board may deem necessary or useful, or as the board may require.

2. The regular and special reports of the bureau of mines and geology shall be printed as the board of regents may direct, and the reports may be distributed or sold by the board as the interest of the state or science may demand. All monies obtained by the sale of such reports shall be paid into the state treasury. retained by the bureau of mines and geology to be used for costs of printing and distribution as the board of regents may direct.

(5:127:1935; 1931 NCL § 4311.05) + (6:127:1935; 1931 NCL § 4311.06)

514.080 Certain acts of director, employees illegal. It shall be unlawful for the director or any attache of the bureau of mines and geology:

1. To receive a commission or to act as agent or broker of or for any purchaser, owner, or his or their agents, of a mining property.

2. To act in any other than a wholly impartial way while so employed.

(4:127:1935; 1931 NCL § 4311.04)

