

disbursements for attending meetings and performing other official duties.

12B. The Commission shall exercise general supervision over all matters pertaining to:

1. The conduct of topographic, geologic, hydrographic, and magnetic surveys.

2. The preparation of topographic, geologic and other types of maps to meet specific needs.

3. The preparation of reports on the extent and character of the State's mineral and water resources.

4. The inspection, sanitation, ventilation, and safeguarding of mine operations.

5. The examination of applicants for certificates of competency as mine foremen, assistant mine foremen, and fire bosses.

6. The control, as far as practicable, of the appropriation or use of surface and underground waters of the State, and the control of the construction and repairs of reservoirs, dams and waterway obstructions.

7. The investigation and recommendation of plans and policies for the protection of the waterfront and waterways of the State against erosion, and the cooperation necessary for carrying into effect plans for the development of the waterfront property and the improvement of the waterways of the State.

12C. The present State Geologist shall become the administrative head of the Department to be known as the Director but upon his death, resignation or removal the Director shall be appointed by the Commission in accordance with the Merit System law. The Director shall be a person with executive ability and special training and experience in handling problems in the fields of geology, mining and water supply. The Commission shall appoint, in accordance with the Merit System law, such assistants and other employees as may be provided for in the Budget.

There shall also be attached to said Department a Bureau of Mines, headed by a Chief Mine Engineer, who shall have charge of the activities set forth in Sections 16 to 177, inclusive, of Article 89 of the Code.

There shall also be attached to said Department a Water Engineer, who shall have charge of the activities set forth in Article 96B of the Code, and shall be appointed by the Commission in accordance with the Merit System law.

SEC. 9. *And be it further enacted*, That Sections 17, 18, 21, and 24 of Article 89 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition), title "Statistics and Informa-