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ORIGINAL

Decision No. 11882

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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In the Matter of the Application of)
 N. A. WEBB, F. S. HENDRICKS and D. E.)
 HAMILTON, co-partners, owners of)
 Pasadena-Ocean Park Stage Line, for an) Application No. 8494
 order granting permission to establish)
 on one day's notice certain increases)
 and reductions in fares.)

N. A. Webb for Applicants

C. W. Cornell and H. O. Marler
for Pacific Electric Rwy Co.

BY THE COMMISSION,

OPINION

N. A. Webb, F. S. Hendricks, D. E. Hamilton, co-partners doing business under the name of Pasadena-Ocean Park Stage Line, filed an application with the Railroad Commission in which they petition for an order authorizing certain increases in passenger rates affecting territory covered by the operative right held by said co-partnership.

A public hearing in the above entitled proceeding was held before Examiner Eddy at Los Angeles on March 23, 1923, at which time the matter was submitted and it is now ready for decision.

Revised schedules proposed by applicants contain the following proposed changes: 6 reductions of 5 cents each; 45 increases as follows: 23 of 5 cents; 7 of 10 cents; 2 of 9 cents; 3 of 8 cents; 4 of 14 cents; 4 of 13 cents; 2 of 18 cents; 11

published rates to remain as heretofore.

None of the co-partners, other than N. A. Webb appeared in support of said petition and the only testimony offered was the statements contained in the application as filed with Commission. Exhibit "B" attached to said application contained a statement of revenue and operating expenses covering a period September 1st, 1921 to August 31st, 1922. Operating revenue was given as the sum of \$53,231.34, total operating expenses as \$54,354.03, showing a deficit for the period mentioned of \$1,122.69. No explanation whatsoever was offered by applicants in support of various items contained in these compilations of operating expenses, which compilations contain such items as injuries and damages \$2,973.29, with no explanation as to whether or not this is an unusual or infrequent claim or an average of injury and damage claims required to be met by applicant over a period of years. It also includes salaries of general offices amounting to \$2769.00, also a charge of \$1,500.00 for Superintendent of Transportation with no explanation as to services performed for such expenditure, another item, Superintendent of Solicitation, \$1,500.00 with no explanation whatsoever for any of the expenditures contained in their expense compilation nor any evidence as to the reasonableness or justification therefor.

This is not the first time that this co-partnership has been before the Commission for an increase in rates. A previous application was denied recently due to the fact that increases were asked for without any showing whatsoever justifying the same. We must state at this time that a public utility desiring to establish an increased schedule of rates must come before the Commission properly prepared to present evidence justifying the increases they propose to inaugurate. No such justification has been made in the present proceeding and we can only

recommend that the application be denied. An Order will be entered accordingly.

ORDER

A public hearing having been held in the above entitled application, evidence submitted and the Commission being fully advised,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the above entitled application be, and the same hereby is denied.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 2^d day of April, 1923.

O. Seavey
H. B. ...

J. T. Whittier
Commissioners