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18870Decision No.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application of THE ATCHISON, TOPEKA AND SANTA FE RAILWAY COMPANY, a corporation, for authority to reduce its station at Waukena, California, from an agency station to a prepay non-agency station.

Application No. 13816.

Leo E. Sievert, for Applicant. J. J. Deuel, for Tulare County Farm Bureau, Protestant. Robert C. Doris, for Waukena Community Development Club, Protestant. Wm. Egerton, in propris persons. J. W. Harvey, in propris persona.

BY THE COMMISSION:

<u>o p i n i o n</u>

Request is made by the above named applicant, The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company, for an order of this Commission authorizing it to reduce its station at Waukena, California, from an agency station to a prepay non-agency station.

Public hearings were held before Examiner Vaughan at Visalia and Corcoran, the matter was duly submitted and is now ready for decision.

The record shows that during the period November 1, 1925, to October 31, 1926, the average monthly revenue at this station was \$289.83 and the average monthly expense was \$139.37; during the period August 1, 1926, to August 1, 1927, the average monthly revenue was \$332.55 and the average monthly expense was \$139.74. The above figures show that the average monthly expense at this station for the two periods considered is approximately 50 per cent of the average monthly revenue.

-1-

Should this application be granted, the Company will maintain a part-time agent at Waukena, who will sell passenger tickets and act as a general agent for the ordering of freight cars for the various shippers, but will not handle freight accounts, as all freight is to be prepaid. The record seems clear that such a part-time agent could take care of the amount of business handled at this station.

In view of this and the fact that it is unreasonable to expect applicant to continue operating this station at so great an operating loss, it is our opinion that the application should be granted. An order will be entered accordingly.

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Application, as above named and numbered, having been filed with this Commission, public hearings having been held thereon, the matter having been duly submitted, and being now ready for decision,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the above entitled application be and the same is hereby granted, provided that applicant will maintain a part-time agent to sell passenger tickets and order freight cars for shippers of freight; all freight to be prepaid.

The Commission reserves the right to make such further orders relative to the status, operation and maintenance of this station, as to it may seem right and proper and to revoke the authority herein granted if, in its judgment, the public convenience and necessity demand such action.

The effective date of this order shall be twenty (20) days from and after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this <u>4</u> day of October, 1927.