

Decision No. 18954

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

ORIGINAL

In the Matter of the Application of
WILLIAM D. BRADFORD, to establish
meter rates for furnishing water for
domestic use to the inhabitants of
the town of Arbuckle, Colusa County.

Application No. 14627.

Rutledge and Rutledge, by Thomas Rutledge,
for Applicant.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

In this proceeding, William D. Bradford, owner and operator of a public utility system supplying water for domestic and other purposes to the inhabitants of the unincorporated town of Arbuckle, Colusa County, requests this Commission to adjust the present water rates and establish a schedule of rates for metered service.

A public hearing in this matter was held before Examiner Rowell in Arbuckle, Colusa County.

The water supply is obtained by pumping from two wells directly into the distribution system, the surplus being stored in a 10,000-gallon elevated tank. There are at present 95 consumers served by the system. All charges for water have been on a flat rate basis, except for water delivered to tank-wagons for the purpose of watering trees along the public highways, for which a charge of 25 cents per 1,000 gallons has been made. The present rates are as follows:

Per Month

For each store, or place of business having a toilet for which water is used for flushing---	\$1.50
For each office, store or place of business without toilets-----	1.00
For each garage or service station-----	2.00
For barber shops with bath-----	2.00
For hotels-----	5.00
For sanitariums-----	7.50
For private residence, with lawn-----	2.50
For private residence, without lawn-----	1.50
Water for tank-wagons, or special purposes, per 1,000 gallons-----	.25

A report was presented by E.R. Foster, one of the Commission's hydraulic engineers, showing the estimated original cost of the system to be \$11,565. as of June 1, 1928, with a corresponding depreciation annuity of \$169., and recommending the sum of \$1,000. as the reasonable annual operating and maintenance expenses for the immediate future. The gross operating revenues for 1926 were \$1,806. and \$1,913. for 1927, resulting in a net return of slightly in excess of six per cent on the investment for the year 1927.

Applicant testified that the establishment of meter rates requested was not intended or expected to increase the utility's revenue, but that the installation of meters is desirable for the conservation of water and the elimination of waste.

The meter rates set out below compare favorably with the rates now charged for measured service by other small water utilities operating in the general vicinity under similar conditions, and are designed to produce as nearly as can be approximated the same annual revenues as the existing flat rate schedule.

O R D E R

Application as entitled above having been made to this Commission, a public hearing having been held thereon, the matter having been submitted and the Commission being now fully advised

in the premises,

IT IS HEREBY FOUND AS A FACT that the rates now charged by William D. Bradford for water supplied to his consumers are unjust and unreasonable in so far as they differ from the rates herein established, and that the rates herein established are just and reasonable rates for the service rendered, and basing its order upon the foregoing finding of fact and upon the statements of fact contained in the opinion which precedes this order,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that William D. Bradford be and he is hereby authorized and directed to file with the Railroad Commission, within thirty (30) days from the date of this order, the following schedule of rates for all water delivered to his consumers on and after the 1st day of July, 1928:

RATE SCHEDULE

MONTHLY FLAT RATES

For each sanitarium or hospital-----	\$ 7.50
For each hotel or rooming house-----	5.00
For each private residence, without lawn-----	1.50
For each barber shop with bath-----	2.00
For each garage or service station-----	2.00
For each office, store, or place of business, with flush toilet-----	1.50
For each place of business, except as listed above-----	1.25
Lawn and garden irrigation, per 100 square feet of surface actually irrigated-----	.04

METERED RATES

Minimum Monthly Charges:

For 5/8-inch by 3/4-inch meter-----	\$ 1.50
For 3/4-inch meter-----	2.00
For 1-inch meter-----	2.50
For 1 1/2-inch meter-----	3.50
For 2-inch meter-----	5.00
For 3-inch meter-----	10.00

Each of the foregoing "Minimum Monthly Charges" will entitle the consumer to the quantity of water which that minimum monthly charge will purchase at the following "Monthly Quantity Rates".

Monthly Quantity Rates:

First	750 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet-----	0.20
Next	2,250 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet-----	0.15
Next	5,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet-----	0.10
Over	8,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet-----	0.08

TANK-WAGON RATES

Water for tank-wagons and similar special service to be charged for at the rate of 20 cents per 100 cubic feet and no monthly minimum charge.

Any consumer is entitled to metered service upon application therefor and the utility may meter any and all service connections.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that William D. Bradford be and he is hereby directed to file with the Railroad Commission, within thirty (30) days from the date of this order, rules and regulations governing service to his consumers, said rules and regulations to become effective upon their acceptance for filing by this Commission.

For all other purposes, the effective date of this order shall be twenty (20) days from and after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 29th day of June, 1928.

C. Seavey

W. D. Bradford

John D. Lovell

W. J. Carr

 Commissioners.