

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 21073

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the matter of the application  
of SOUTHWESTERN HOME TELEPHONE COMPANY,  
a corporation, for permission to file  
and place in effect rates for exchange  
telephone service at the Cities of  
Beaumont and Banning, County of San  
Bernardino, State of California.

Application No. 15338.

A. N. Johns, for Applicant.  
J. J. Deuel, for California Farm Bureau Federation.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

Southwestern Home Telephone Company, a corporation, herein is requesting authority to file and make effective new rates for exchange telephone service in its Banning-Beaumont Exchange.

Examiner Rowell conducted a hearing in this proceeding in Banning on April 17, 1929, when the matter was submitted for decision.

Applicant is engaged in the business of furnishing telephone service in several communities of the counties of Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego, in California. The Banning and Beaumont communities, which would be particularly affected by the changes proposed, are located in Riverside County, separated some six miles, and having populations of approximately 3000 and 1200 inhabitants, respectively. Telephone service in the exchange area in the past has been furnished from a magneto central office in Banning at rates varying with the block in the area in which the subscriber was located. It is proposed to change these block divisions so as to more equitably

distribute the charges for service. The primary rate areas, one for each community, are to be changed from circular areas, with their attendant difficulties in administration, to rectangles with boundaries more easily located in the field.

Mr. A. N. Johns, Vice President of Southwestern Home Telephone Company, as a witness for applicant, stated that the outside plant had been rebuilt with considerable cable in service in the urban sections. Modern common battery automatic central office apparatus has been installed in new company-owned buildings in Banning and Beaumont. A new toll board has been placed in operation in Banning where connection is had with the toll telephone lines of The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company for service to outside points. It was stated that before work on the contemplated improvements was started, petitions were circulated among the subscribers in these communities setting forth rates and rate areas which would justify the expenditures proposed. A large majority of the subscribers signed these petitions. The rates which applicant now desires to make effective are considerably lower than the petition rates referred to above. It is proposed to serve the two communities as one exchange with two central offices, no message charge for service between the two sections, and with Banning as the toll point.

The proposed rates, although they will result in higher charges to subscribers to the service, are justified by the greatly improved service and the making available of the better grades of service in Beaumont. Inasmuch as the carrying charges will be substantially increased with the new service, a close determination of the financial results to be expected cannot be made.

No objection to the granting of applicant's request was made at the hearing.

We find, after considering the evidence presented in this proceeding, that the interests of the public in the communities of Banning and Beaumont require the service rearrangements described in testimony at the hearing, and that the rates requested by Applicant should be authorized, and the order following will so provide.

O R D E R

Southwestern Home Telephone Company having requested permission of the Railroad Commission to file and make effective rates for telephone service in the communities of Banning and Beaumont, a public hearing having been held, the matter having been submitted and now being ready for decision, the Railroad Commission being fully advised and basing its order on the findings of fact appearing in the opinion which precedes this order,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Southwestern Home Telephone Company shall;

1. Establish an exchange area for the Banning-Beaumont Exchange with blocks as shown in Exhibit "D" of the application herein as of June 1, 1929.

2. Establish primary rate areas for Banning and Beaumont as shown in Exhibit "D" of the application herein as of June 1, 1929.

3. Establish rates for exchange telephone service in the Banning-Beaumont Exchange, as set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto, effective as of June 1, 1929.

4. Submit to the Railroad Commission of the State of California, for filing, maps showing the exchange area with service blocks and primary rate areas and the rates for exchange telephone service for the Banning-Beaumont Ex-

change, referred to in (1), (2) and (3) above, on or before

May 27, 1929.

5. Discontinue all present rates for service in Banning-Beaumont Exchange which may be in conflict with rates set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto as of June 1, 1929.

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 10<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1929.

Paul D. Smith

C. J. Seaver

Wm. A. Smith

Leon Whitely

Commissioners.

EXHIBIT. "A"

RATES

EXCHANGE SERVICE SCHEDULE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

GENERAL SERVICE

BANNING-BEAUMONT

SERVICE:

Applicable to all one-party, four-party and eight-party line unlimited exchange service within the areas indicated.

RATE:

Class of Service	Rate Per Station Per Month			
	Business Service		Residence Service	
	Wall Set	Desk Set	Wall Set	Desk Set
One-party line,	\$4.00	\$4.25	\$3.00	\$3.25
Four-party line,	3.50	3.75	2.50	2.75
Eight-party line Block 3,	3.25	3.50	2.50	2.75
Eight-party line Block 4,	3.50	3.75	2.75	3.00
Extension (with or without bell),	.75*	1.00*	.75*	1.00*

Hand set stations will be furnished at wall set station rate plus, per month,..... \$.50

CONDITIONS:

(a) Discounts are allowed on all rates except those marked with an (\*) as follows:

Monthly in advance (before the tenth of the month)...\$.25  
Quarterly in advance (before the tenth of the first month in the quarter, January, April, July, October), rate for three months less..... 1.00  
Annually in advance, on any date, rate for twelve months less..... 4.50

(b) Extension stations at the above rates must be located in the same building as the primary station. For charges for extension stations not so located, see "Mileage Rates" attached hereto.

(c) One-party line rates are applicable within the boundaries of Block 1 as shown on map attached and marked Exhibit "D". For service outside this area see "Mileage Rates" attached hereto.

Four-party line rates are applicable within the boundaries of Block 2 as shown on map attached and marked Exhibit "D". For service outside this area, but inside Blocks 3 and 4, see "Mileage Rates" attached hereto.

Eight-party line rates are applicable within the boundaries of the various blocks indicated above in this schedule.

EXCHANGE SERVICE SCHEDULE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

MILEAGE RATES

BANNING-BEAUMONT

SERVICE:

Mileage rates applicable throughout the entire territory served.

RATE:

<u>1. Within Suburban Area</u>	<u>Rate Per Each</u> <u>One-quarter Mile</u> <u>or Fraction</u> <u>thereof per Month</u>
Service.	
Each Individual Line Primary Station .....	\$0.50
Each Private Branch Exchange or Inter- Communicating System Trunk Line .....	.50
Each Battery Circuit .....	.50
Each Ringing Power Supply Circuit .....	.50
Each Two-party Line Primary Station .....	.35
Each Four-party Line Primary Station .....	.25
Each Eight-party Line Primary Station .....	.15

The above rates are based on air line distance measured between the subscriber's primary station, receiving station, or private branch exchange switchboard and the nearest point on the boundary of the nearest primary rate area of the company. These rates are applied to the services listed above when subscriber's instrumentalities are located outside of the several primary rate areas, but within the territory served and are in addition to the other rates applying to those services.

<u>2. Within Exchange Area and Off</u> <u>Premises where Primary Station</u> <u>Or Private Branch Exchange</u> <u>Switchboard is Located.</u>	<u>Rate per Each</u> <u>One-quarter Mile or</u> <u>Fraction thereof</u> <u>Per Month.</u>
Each Extension Station .....	\$0.50
Each Private Branch Exchange Station .....	.50

The above rates are based on route mileage, which is the lineal length of the actual circuit required. These rates are applicable in connection with extension stations, and private branch exchange stations terminated off the premises on which the primary station or private branch exchange switchboard is located, and are in addition to the rate for services on the premises on which the primary station, or private branch exchange switchboard is located.