

Decision No. 21289.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

ORIGINAL

In the Matter of the Application of
E. R. Feuz, for an order permitting
suspension of operation, abandonment
of lines; and disposal of his tele-
phone property.

Application No. 15629.

E. R. Feuz, in propria persona.

J. H. Greig, for Public Utilities Calif-
ornia Corporation, an interested party.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

E. R. Feuz, applicant in this proceeding, owner and operator of a telephone system, having a central switching point at Cassell with local lines connecting thereto, and lines extending to Burney and Fall River Mills, all in Shasta County, California, requests authority to discontinue service as a public telephone utility and to abandon or otherwise dispose of his entire telephone property.

A public hearing was held in this matter before Examiner Williams in Redding on June 18, 1929, at which time the matter was submitted for decision.

According to the evidence, the telephone property now operated by applicant is a portion of a rather extensive system formerly owned by E. E. Williams, Cassell, California. Of the

property acquired by applicant in the year 1910, less than one-tenth of the original telephone plant is in use at the present time. E. R. Feuz testified that the gross operating revenue derived from his telephone system during the year 1928 was \$230. and that the operating expenses (not including compensation for himself and family in operating the exchange) for the same period amounted to a total of \$280., and that for many years previous the operations resulted in out-of-pocket loss. He stated that he now serves but twenty subscribers and that the cost of necessary reconstruction to continue service would be prohibitive. Mr. Feuz proposes to make a gift of his telephone system to the persons now served by it, so that they may continue its operation on a mutual basis. A tentative mutual organization has already been formed among the present users for the purpose of continuing service under applicant's plan if his application is granted as requested. Although the record shows that a notice of the hearing was mailed to each subscriber no one appeared to protest against the granting of this application.

Mr. J. H. Greig, representing the Public Utilities California Corporation, operating a telephone exchange at Burney, California, testified that his company would be willing to file a rate for service at its Burney Exchange which would enable those persons located within the Burney Exchange area of Public Utilities California Corporation, and now being served by applicant, to receive exchange service under applicant's and subscribers' joint proposed plan on a regular basis.

O R D E R

E. R. Feuz, having made application to the Railroad Commission for authority to discontinue service as a public telephone utility and to dispose of his telephone property, a public hearing having been held and the matter being now ready for decision,

The Railroad Commission hereby finds as a fact that applicant in this proceeding should not be required to continue the operation of his telephone system.

Basing its order on the foregoing finding of fact and upon such other findings of fact as are contained in the opinion preceding this order,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that E. R. Feuz be and he is hereby authorized to suspend and abandon all his telephone operations as a public utility from and after July 1, 1929, and to cancel and withdraw as of that date all of his rates and tariffs for telephone service.

The authorization herein contained is conditional upon abandonment of service by applicant being completed on or before August 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 27th day of June, 1929.

Thor S. Lott
Ed. Seamy
Ernest P. Edg.
Leon C. Whittell
M. P. C.
Commissioners.