

Decision No. 23992.**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application of SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY for authority to close the agency at Rodeo, Contra Costa County, State of California.
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Application No. 17452.

Roy G. Hillebrand, for Applicant.

L. E. Hart and James M. Long, for Protestants.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

In this application, Southern Pacific Company requests permission to close its agency at the Station of Rodeo, County of Contra Costa, California.

A public hearing was conducted in this matter by Examiner Kennedy at Rodeo, on August 4, 1931.

Rodeo is located on the Port Costa Main Line of applicant, between Pinole and Selby, being distant 2.5 miles west and 2.0 miles east of Rodeo, respectively.

In support of the granting of this application it was urged that the expense of maintaining the agency is out of proportion to the revenue received. Applicant's Exhibit No. 1 shows the following comparison of business handled to station expenses for the year ending February 28, 1931.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Ave. per Mo.</u>
L.C.L. Revenue	\$784.00	\$65.00
Ticket Revenue (Agency reports)	3,364.00	280.00
Total	<u>\$4,148.00</u>	<u>\$345.00</u>
Station Expense,	1,854.00	155.00
Excess monthly revenues over expenses,		<u>\$190.00</u>

In addition, carload freight business transacted at Rodeo for the year ending January 31, 1931, produced a revenue of \$6,849.00.

With respect to affording the public service in connection with information regarding shipments, or the sale of commutation tickets, applicant contends that its patrons could be served at Pinole, Selby or Oleum. The Oleum agency, however, is located 0.9 miles east of Rodeo, but due to the fact that it is entirely surrounded by property of the Union Oil Company, it becomes necessary for persons to get a permit from the Oil Company to pass over its property in order to reach the station. As for the L.C.L. shipments, the company proposed to store the shipments in the freight house at the owner's risk.

The granting of this application was vigorously protested by residents of the town of Rodeo. The evidence shows that Rodeo has a population of approximately 1,500 people and that a considerable number commute regularly largely between stations within a distance of ten miles on either side, some of which points are non-agency stations. It was their contention that the removal of the agency would work a hardship, particularly to those commuting to non-agency points. Shippers of live stock to Rodeo testified that an agent was needed both to furnish information as to the time of arrival of stock cars and also to arrange for collection of freight charges at destination rather than prepayment as is required at non-agency stations.

After reviewing the evidence it appears that public convenience and necessity reasonably justify the continued maintenance of the Rodeo Agency and therefore the application

will be denied.

O R D E R

A public hearing having been held and the matter having been submitted,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that said application is hereby denied without prejudice.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 31 day of August, 1931.

C. J. Seamy  
Leon Whidbey  
M. J. [unclear]  
M. B. [unclear]  
Fred G. Stewart

Commissioners.