

Decision No. _____

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 5172

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

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In the matter of the application
of A. R. WILLIAMS for certificate
to operate stage or truck service
between Santa Maria and Casmalia,
California.

)
)
) Application No. 3431.
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F. J. Feeney for applicant.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

A. R. Williams applies for certificate that public convenience and necessity require him to operate an automobile service for the common carriage of passengers, express packages and light baggage between Santa Maria and Casmalia, a distance of about 14 miles over fair dirt roads, part thereof being oiled, all being in Santa Barbara County.

A public hearing on the application was held by Examiner Westover at Santa Maria.

Applicant has been operating this line since December 18, 1917, it having been formerly operated by W. J. Evans in good faith prior to May 1, 1917. The

right of Mr. Evans to continue operating after that date under the terms of Chapter 213, Laws of 1917, was attempted to be sold to Messrs. Frank and Saunders who paid for it, assuming it to be transferable. They, however, appear to have abandoned the idea of attempting to operate over the route. Applicant paid nothing for the alleged right to operate.

His gross receipts from operations since December 18, 1917 have been about \$4.00 per day, which he considers to be the value of his time alone; but he expects a greater amount of travel in the summer time between Santa Maria and the new oil fields near Casmalia. He has no data on which to base this belief.

He has at present an 8 passenger Peerless car and 5 passenger Ford but expects to sell them both and purchase a new Studebaker 7 passenger car for \$1600 and operate two round trips per day for a fare of \$1.00 each way or 35¢ between Santa Maria and Orcutt and 75¢ between Orcutt and Casmalia. His proposed schedule, filed with the application, contemplates three round trips per day, but at the hearing he announced that he wished to modify his proposed schedule by eliminating the trip leaving Santa Maria at 10:30 A.M. and arriving from Casmalia at Santa Maria at 1:00 P.M.

There is at present a stage service between Santa Maria and Orcutt, a distance of about 9 miles, with five round trips a day, but applicant does not intend to solicit business to or from Orcutt. No attempt was made to show that additional service between Santa Maria and Orcutt is needed. No ap-

pearance nor objection to granting the present application was made by those operating the line between Santa Maria and Orcutt.

There is no other through stage service between Santa Maria and Casmalia and no present service between Orcutt and Casmalia beside that of applicant. The evidence shows that there is considerable daily automobile travel between Casmalia and Santa Maria beside the passengers carried by applicant. His experience shows that there is considerable public convenience to be served during the winter season. He believes the business can be developed to paying proportions during the coming summer. The application will therefore be granted.

O R D E R.

A. R. WILLIAMS having filed application asking that the Railroad Commission declare that public convenience and necessity require the operation by him of automobile service hereinafter described, and a public hearing having been held on said application, the matter having been submitted and being now ready for decision,

THE RAILROAD COMMISSION HEREBY DECLARES that public convenience and necessity require the operation by said A. R. Williams of automobile service as a common carrier of passengers, express packages and light baggage between Santa Maria and Casmalia via Orcutt in Santa Barbara County;

Provided that this declaration shall not become effective until said A. R. Williams has procured from the Railroad Commission a supplemental order herein reciting that said A. R. Williams has filed herein certified

copies of permits from the County of Santa Barbara and the City of Santa Maria as provided by Section 3 of Chapter 213, Laws of 1917, and

PROVIDED FURTHER that the rights and privileges herein granted shall not be assigned or transferred unless the written consent of the Railroad Commission to such assignment or transfer has first been procured.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that no vehicle may be operated under this certificate unless such vehicle is owned by the applicant herein or is leased by such applicant under a contract or agreement on a basis satisfactory to the Railroad Commission.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this *21*
day of *March* 1918.

Max Theiler
John L. ...
...
Edwin O. ...
Frank R. ...
Commissioners.