

Decision No. 8462

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of }
 KLAMATH TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COM- } Application No. 3811.
 PANY, an association, for authority }
 to revise toll rates. }

BY THE COMMISSION.

O P I N I O N

Klamath Telephone and Telegraph Company, applicant in this proceeding, owns and operates a telephone system in the southern part of the State of Oregon with toll lines extending from Klamath Falls, in that State, into Siskiyou County, in this State. On March 13, 1918, by its Decision No. 5200, this Commission authorized applicant to purchase from Little Shasta Telephone Company, also known as Montague-Butte Valley Telephone Company, certain telephone lines extending between Montague and Mount Hebron and to construct a toll line between Dorris, one of the then termini of its lines in California, and Mount Hebron. The authority therein granted was given upon condition that applicant should file with the Commission a schedule of rates covering service between Dorris and Montague and intermediate points for the Commission's approval. A schedule of rates was thereupon submitted, but approval has been withheld by reason of increases in former rates which were involved without the necessary showing in justification thereof having been made. In this proceeding, applicant is seeking authority to modify the former rates and to file a schedule of uniform rates in lieu thereof.

A public hearing was held at Dorris on May 28, 1920, before Examiner Satterwhite. At this hearing applicant was directed to file with the Commission certain data which has now been filed and the matter is now ready for decision.

Prior to the purchase of the lines of Montague-Butte Valley Telephone Company, applicant was and still is operating a toll line extending from Dorris in a westerly direction through intermediate points to Ager and has in effect over this line a schedule of rates differing from those in effect over the line formerly owned and operated by Montague-Butte Valley Telephone Company. The rates for service over both of these lines also differ from the rates of The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company, with the lines of which company's system applicant's lines connect at Ager and Montague. The rates of The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company are the so-called Burleson rates. Applicant is, therefore, now asking for authority to apply over all of its toll lines within this State a schedule of rates to correspond with the Pacific or Burleson rates.

If the desired permission is granted by the Commission, some of the present rates of applicant will be increased and some of them will be reduced. It will also have the effect of placing all of applicant's toll rates in California on a uniform basis, thus eliminating certain inconsistencies which now exist and, by reason of uniformity with the rates of The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company, will simplify the matter of computing joint rates as well as the keeping of records, billing and accounting.

Evidence in this case is not such as will enable the Commission to pass upon the ultimate reasonableness of the proposed rates. It is not probable, however, that their application will very materially affect applicant's revenues and no protest has been made against them. One of the matters which applicant was directed at the hearing to file with the Commission, as referred to above, is

a schedule setting forth the proposed rates. This schedule has since been filed as applicant's Exhibit "A" and, except for certain modifications which are necessary to correct minor errors in computing mileage between stations, it appears to conform to the Burleson schedule. We are accordingly of the opinion that the application herein should be granted.

The modifications above referred to cover the following rates for station to station messages:

Ager	to	Hudson's Mill,	15¢
"	"	Prather Ranch,	15¢
"	"	Mt. Hebron,	20¢
"	"	Klamath Hot Springs,	10¢
Bogus	"	Hudson's Mill,	15¢
"	"	Klamath Hot Springs,	05¢
Klamath Hot Springs	to	Secret Springs,	10¢
"	"	" " Dorris,	20¢
"	"	" " Terwilliger,	15¢
"	"	" " Montague,	20¢
"	"	" " Mt. Hebron,	20¢
Macdoel	to	Terwilliger,	15¢
Mt. Hebron	to	Hudson's Mill,	10¢
"	"	" Prather Ranch,	05¢
Prather Ranch	to	Terwilliger,	10¢

The following order is recommended.

ORDER

Klamath Telephone and Telegraph Company having applied to the Railroad Commission for an order modifying its rates for long distance telephone and telegraph service, a hearing having been held, the matter having been submitted and being now ready for decision,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Klamath Telephone and Telegraph Company be and it is hereby authorized to publish, file with this Commission, and make effective within thirty days of the date of this order, a schedule of rates to be charged and collected from its sub-

scribers and patrons for long distance telephone and telegraph toll service in accordance with its Exhibit "A" referred to in the Opinion preceding this Order, subject to the modifications thereof set forth in the preceding Opinion.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 20th day of December, 1920.

Edwin O. Edgerton

H. H. Loveland

H. H. Boudige

Irving Martin

Commissioners.