

Decision No. 9331

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application of)
A. B. Bland, owner of Bland Stages,)
for an order granting permission to)
increase fares between Holtville and)
El Centro, California.)

APPLICATION NO. 6809.

BY THE COMMISSION:

ORDER

This is a proceeding filed May 7, 1921, in which A. B. Bland, operating under the name of Bland Stages, carrying passengers by auto stage between Holtville and El Centro, California, makes application under Rules 10 and 11 of General Order No. 51 for authority to establish a one-way fare of 35 cents instead of the present fare of 50 cents between Holtville and Mellowland, a reduction of 15 cents; a fare of 35 cents instead of 50 cents between Mellowland and El Centro, a reduction of 15 cents; a fare of 60 cents instead of 50 cents, an increase of 10 cents, between Holtville and El Centro, and to eliminate the present round trip fare of 90 cents between Holtville and El Centro.

Exhibit A, filed with the original application, is a statement of revenue and expenses for a period of eight months, July 1920 to February 1921, inclusive, and shows an operating deficit of \$2,936.33. Exhibit B, filed with the application, shows a travel

check for July and August 1920, and January and February 1921, indicating that the adjustment of rates requested, based on these four months, would still result in an annual deficit.

Set up in the operating expense is an item of interest in the amount of \$452.00 covering eight months which should not be included in those expenses at all. There is also an item of \$200.00 salary for the applicant. We believe \$200.00 a month is excessive for the management of a business with no greater gross revenue than is here shown. Using the certified figures given by Exhibits A and B, attached to and made a part of the application, it is apparent that if these changes in rates, increases and reductions, were authorized, there would still be a net loss. Eliminating the items of interest and the salary allowed the owner, and, further, taking into consideration that the prices of gasoline, tires and other materials have recently decreased, we are of the opinion that the granting of this application will meet operating expenses and yield some return on the investment.

The Commission is in receipt of a communication from the Holtville Commercial Club, advising that it approves the proposed changes; it also submitted copy of a resolution passed by the Club indorsing the application and urging that the Commission grant the same upon the grounds that there is need for more frequent service and better equipment which, according to investigation, could not be secured under the passenger fares now in effect.

We believe this is a matter in which a public hearing is not necessary and that this application should be granted.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that this application should
be and the same is hereby granted.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 9th day
of August, 1921.

H. B. Brundage

H. D. Loveland

Erving Martin

J. J. [unclear]
Commissioners.