

ORIGINAL

DECISION NO. 9469.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

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In the Matter of the Application of)	
THE WESTERN PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY)	
for an order authorizing the abandon-)	
ment of its agency station at Calneva,)	Application No. 6496.
California.)	
.....)	

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N.

The Western Pacific Railroad Company has petitioned the Railroad Commission for an order authorizing the discontinuance of its agency station at Calneva, California, alleging in such petition that the amount of traffic developed by the maintenance of a station at such point does not justify the continuance of an agency and that there is no public necessity for its continued maintenance as freight and express would be received and delivered under the usual conditions obtaining at a non-agency station and passengers would continue to be received and discharged at such station.

An informal investigation has been made by the Commission since the filing of this application and it appears that the volume of traffic originating at and destined to the station of Calneva is limited in amount. The following is a record of the business handled during the year ending December 31, 1921:

Passenger Tickets sold	61	\$330.23
Freight received	55,729 lbs.	435.01
Freight forwarded	23,632 lbs.	178.27
	<u>T o t a l</u>	<u>\$943.51</u>

The expense of maintaining the station for the same period has amounted to \$1,862.13 of which amount \$1,680.64 was for salary of the agent.

Protests have been received by the Commission against the granting of the application, but it is apparent that the business handled does not justify the expense of maintaining an agency at this point.

The Commission's investigation develops the fact that Calneva is a water station and that an employee divides his time between this station and Eckstaffⁱⁿ/operating the pumping plants serving the tanks containing water supply.

In view of the fact that the trains serving Calneva are so scheduled that the employee designated to handle the pumping plants can arrange to be at Calneva during the hours when passenger trains scheduled to stop at this station are arriving and at the time when local freight trains are due, we are of the opinion that the employee used as a pumper should also be used as a caretaker and thereby furnish reasonable service to the patrons of the company using Calneva station. The establishment of a caretaker at this station will result in the public receiving a portion of the service that would be available from an agency station. The station will be open at hours when passenger trains scheduled to stop at this station are due, shippers and receivers of less than car load freight will be able to have their shipments stored in the warehouse for protection against pilferage and the weather and consignees can secure same by presenting themselves at the hours when the caretaker is on duty at Calneva Station. No tickets will be available and no receipt for freight shipments will be available, nor will receipts be exacted when delivery of consignments is made, the station to be handled as a non-agency as regards the receipt and delivery of

less than car load freight, baggage and express.

We are of the opinion that the application should be granted conditioned upon applicant, Western Pacific Railroad Company, being required to substitute a caretaker in lieu of the agent as more specifically defined in the following order.

O R D E R.

Western Pacific Railroad Company having applied for authority to discontinue its agency station at Calneva, an investigation having been made, the Commission being fully advised and of the opinion that this is a matter in which a public hearing is not necessary and that the application should be granted conditionally.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that this application be and the same hereby is granted, subject to the following conditions:

- I - At the time of discontinuance of the agency at Calneva, applicant, Western Pacific Railroad Company, will be required to substitute for the agent heretofore employed at such station, an employee whose duties will comprise those of a caretaker, and to include his attendance at hours when passenger trains scheduled to stop at Calneva arrive; to keep the station in condition for the use of passengers as to cleanliness, light and heat during the hours when trains are scheduled to arrive and depart; to render assistance in the conduct of less than carload freight and express business by caring for shipments, both incoming and outgoing, to the extent that they are placed in the station warehouse and are kept from the weather and opportunity for pilferage. No receipts are to be required for shipments delivered for forwarding or to be exacted for freight delivered to consignees. Tickets are not to be sold by the caretaker, passengers to be required to pay fares to conductors of trains, either through to destination or to the next open ticket office as may be arranged by applicant, Western Pacific Railroad Company. In either case, no excess train fare to be required due to passenger paying fare on train.

II - Applicant, Western Pacific Railroad Company, will be required to give ten days' notice to the traveling public of the discontinuance of agency as hereby conditionally authorized, by posting notice at its station of Calneva, such notice to state the date that the agency station will be discontinued and also to advise the shipping and receiving public the hours upon which the caretaker will be on duty and the specific duties such caretaker will perform for the public. A copy of such notice will also be filed with this Commission.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 17th day of
September, 1921.

W. B. Brundage

A. D. Loveland

Georg J. ...

L. J. ...
Commissioners.