

Decision No. 28119.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application of
(a) SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY for an
order authorizing it to establish a
part-time agency at the stations of
Oakville and Yountville, in the County
of Napa, State of California, and (b)
RAILWAY EXPRESS AGENCY, INC. to estab-
lish part-time agencies at each of
said stations.

Application No. 18917.

BY THE COMMISSION:

ORIGINAL

ORDER

Southern Pacific Company joined by Railway Express Agency, Inc., on May 27, 1935, petitioned the Railroad Commission for authority to establish part-time agencies, in lieu of the present full-time agencies, at both Oakville and Yountville, located on the Napa Branch of the Southern Pacific Company's Western Division, in Napa County, California.

The present normal train service on this branch consists of a local freight train in each direction daily except Sundays between Suisun-Fairfield and Calistoga, there being no passenger train service performed over said branch. The Pacific Greyhound Lines, Inc., provides public transportation for passengers and handles milk, cream and express shipments to and from Yountville and Oakville.

Accompanying the application is a comparative statement showing the amount of business transacted by the Southern Pacific Company at these stations, which may be summarized as follows:

Items	Oakville		Yountville	
	Year Ending April 30th			
	1932	1933	1932	1933
Passenger tickets sold,	21	19	204	142
Number of less-than-carload shipments received,	228	189	1,474	1,401
Number of less-than-carload shipments forwarded,	230	165	197	162
Number of carloads received,	12	10	168	368
Number of carloads forwarded,	101	91	89	76

A study of the station records shows that during the year ending April 30, 1933, the expense to maintain both stations amounted to \$3,070., principally the agents' wages, and that the revenue derived from passenger tickets, milk and cream and less-than-carload shipments received and forwarded and Pacific Motor Transport Company's business amounted to \$5,333.

The express revenue derived during the year ending April 30, 1933, on all shipments received and forwarded at Yountville amounted to \$1,067., and at Oakville to \$748. The station agent at each of these points takes care of both the railroad and express business.

Both Oakville and Yountville are located between the agency stations of Napa on the south and Rutherford on the north a distance of 13.9 miles, Oakville being 1.9 miles south of Rutherford and Yountville 8.5 miles north of Napa.

Applicant, Southern Pacific Company, alleges that under present conditions the revenue derived from said stations does not warrant the continuance and maintenance of a full-time agent at each of said stations and that the business can be adequately handled by the maintenance of an agency at Yountville from approximately

7:30 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.
1:00 P.M. to 2:00 P.M.
3:30 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.

and at Oakville during the hours of

10:45 A.M. to 11:45 A.M.
2:15 P.M. to 3:15 P.M.

During the absence of the agent from either of these stations during business hours, Southern Pacific Company proposes to provide a telephone at the stations of Yountville and Oakville for its patrons to communicate with the agent for the purpose of ordering cars and obtaining information on other railroad business.

Railway Express Agency, Inc., proposes to maintain an agent at each of the two stations involved during the same hours as does the railroad.

California Farm Bureau Federation has signified, in writing, that it does not object to the granting of this application.

A member of the Transportation Division of the Commission's Engineering Department made an investigation of this matter and his report, based on an interview with interested shippers and receivers of freight, indicates that there is no serious objection to the granting of this application.

It appearing that a public hearing is not necessary herein and that the application should be granted,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Southern Pacific Company and Railway Express Agency, Inc., respectively, are hereby authorized to establish a part-time agency at Yountville and Oakville, in Napa County, California. The agency at each of these points will be open each week day at approximately the following hours:

Yountville

7:30 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.
1:00 P.M. to 2:00 P.M.
3:30 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.

Oakville

10:45 A.M. to 11:45 A.M.
2:15 P.M. to 3:15 P.M.

The authorization herein granted is subject to the following conditions:

- (1) The part-time operation of these agencies shall not result in an increase in fares for Southern Pacific Company's passengers from these points.
- (2) During the absence of the agent at either of said stations, the company's telephone shall be made available to patrons. The key shall be in the possession of a duly appointed custodian and shall be made available to patrons whenever occasion demands during business hours. A notice shall be maintained in a conspicuous place at the telephone advising shippers where key may be secured.
- (3) Applicants shall notify the public of the establishment of the proposed part-time agency by posting a notice at each station at least ten (10) days in advance of the part-time abandonment of such agency and thereafter shall maintain such notice.
- (4) Applicants shall, within thirty (30) days thereafter, notify this Commission, in writing, of the change herein authorized and of their compliance with the conditions herein.
- (5) The authorization herein granted shall lapse and become void if not exercised within one (1) year from the date hereof, unless further time is granted by subsequent order.
- (6) The Commission reserves the right to make such further orders in this matter as to it may seem right and proper and to revoke its permission if, in its judgment, public convenience and necessity demand such action.

The authorization herein granted shall become effective on the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 30th day of June, 1933.

OC Healey

W. J. Lee

W. B. Lewis

W. H. C. Brown

Commissioners.