

ORIGINALDecision No. 72813

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application)
of Baysel Moyers, doing business)
as Moyers Stages, to increase)
passenger fares and express rates. }

Application No. 49246
(Filed March 29, 1967)

OPINION AND ORDER

Moyers Stages is a proprietorship, owned by Mr. Baysel Moyers, which provides common carrier passenger and express service between Fresno and Sanger - Del Rey and intermediate points, in Fresno County, California. The one-way route distance is approximately 15 miles. The service is provided daily except for Sundays and holidays.

By this application, Mr. Moyers requests authority to increase one-way fares by five cents, round-trip fares by ten cents and commutation fares by five cents per ride. These represent increases ranging up to 20 percent and averaging about 11 percent. The application also requests that local express rates be increased to conform to the Joint Interline Tariff of Western Greyhound Lines and other companies. Applicant states that he believes any greater increase in passenger fares than requested would not produce any further increase in revenue. The express rate increases range between 10 and 37 percent and average about 24 percent.

A financial examiner and a transportation engineer on the Commission's staff made a study of applicant's operations, which study is hereby made a part of this record as Exhibit No. 1.

Information contained in this study was obtained by members of the Commission's staff from the application and annual reports, and a field investigation of company records and operations. The staff made an analysis of revenue and expense accounts, passenger traffic and company operations.

The company owns three Flexible buses, one purchased new and two purchased used; all are older than 16 years. Two buses are in current use, one for regular service and one for standby. The third bus had been used for service between Fresno and Clovis; however, this service was discontinued in September 1966, pursuant to Decision No. 71198, Application No. 48498. The buses are well-maintained and in good serviceable condition.

The estimated results of operation for a rate year ending August 31, 1968, as developed in the staff exhibit, under present and proposed fares are shown in the following table:

	<u>Present Fares</u>	<u>Proposed Fares</u>
Revenues:		
Passenger	\$12,300	\$13,400
Express	1,700	2,100
Total	<u>14,000</u>	<u>15,500</u>
Expenses	18,500	18,500
Operating Income	<u>(4,500)</u>	<u>(3,000)</u>
Operating Ratio - %	133	120
	<u>(Red Figure)</u>	

The rate year shows estimated revenue and expenses for present and proposed fares. The traffic trend is a decrease of about seven percent annually. In the rate year the staff has included depreciation and other fixed expenses for two buses, and

provided owners' salaries allowance for administration and supervision but excluded all expenses of the bus used for the Clovis operation.

It is clear from the above table that expenses will exceed revenues under either the present or the proposed fares and rates.

The public is informed of applicant's proposal to increase fares and rates. Copies of the application were sent to the Fresno City Council, City of Sanger and to the Fresno County Board of Supervisors. Public notice was given by announcements posted in the buses and terminals of applicant. No protests have been received.

It is apparent that immediate relief is necessary and that granting of the sought increase will not enable applicant to operate at a profit although it will reduce the loss. In the circumstances, the Commission finds that the proposed fare and rate increase is justified. We conclude that the application should be granted. A public hearing is not necessary.

In view of the operating loss being experienced, applicant will be authorized to establish the increased fares and rates on five days' notice and the order which follows will be made effective in ten days.

Therefore, good cause appearing,

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Baysel Moyers, doing business as Moyers Stages, is hereby authorized, on not less than five days' notice to the Commission and to the public, to establish the increased fares and rates proposed in Application No. 49246.

2. In addition to the required posting and filing of tariffs, applicant shall give notice to the public by posting in his buses and terminals a printed explanation of the fare and rate increase. Such notice shall be posted not less than five days before the effective date of the fare and rate change and shall remain posted until not less than twenty days after said effective date.

3. The authority granted in paragraph 1 above shall expire unless exercised within sixty days after the effective date of this order.

The effective date of this order shall be ten days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 25th day of JULY, 1967.

[Signature]
President

[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
Commissioners

Commissioner William M. Bennett, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.