

CHAPTER 225

PUBLIC STOCK YARDS

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225.01 DEFINITIONS. Subdivision 1. **Commission.** "Commission," as used in this chapter, means the Railroad and Warehouse commission.

Subd. 2. **Person.** "Person" as used in this chapter, includes any person, co-partnership, association, or corporation doing business in this state.

Subd. 3. **Public stock yards.** "Public stock yards," as used in this chapter, means all stock yards into which livestock is received for the purpose of exposing the same for sale or for feeding the same and doing business for compensation.

Subd. 4. **Operator.** "Operator," as used in this chapter, means any person owning or operating a public stock yard in this state.

[1919 c. 461 s. 1] (5255)

225.02 COMMISSION JURISDICTION. The commission is hereby vested with the same jurisdiction and supervisory power over public stock yards doing business in this state as it has over railroad companies.

[1919 c. 461 s. 2] (5256)

225.03 REPORT TO BE FILED. Every public stock yard operator shall annually on the 31st day of December file with the commission on a form prepared by it a statement certified and sworn to, stating the number of head of cattle, calves, hogs, sheep, horses, and mules received in such stock yards during the preceding year and such other facts as the commission may require.

[1919 c. 461 s. 3] (5257)

225.04 REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION TO PUBLIC. It shall be the duty of every public stock yard operator to furnish reasonable adequate service and facilities for the accommodation of the public and the rates, charges and prices of such stock yards for the services performed by it shall be fair and reasonable. All unreasonable and excessive rates, charges, and prices are hereby declared unlawful.

[1919 c. 461 s. 4] (5258)

225.05 SCHEDULE OF RATES, CHARGES, AND PRICES POSTED. The commission may require each public stock yard operator to post for public inspection at designated places so much of his schedule of rates, charges, and prices for driving, watering, feeding, yarding, weighing, and caring for stock and for every kind of service performed by him, and such of his rules and regulations as it deems necessary for the information of the public.

[1919 c. 461 s. 5] (5259)

225.06 REASONABLE RATES ESTABLISHED. When such rates, schedules, or regulations are found to be unreasonable by the commission, it shall upon its own motion or upon complaint prescribe reasonable rates, charges, and regulations to supersede those found unreasonable and such new rates, charges, or regulations shall be filed in place of those superseded. No charges, rates, or regulations filed with the commission shall be changed by any such operator without an order of the commission sanctioning the same. Proceedings before the commission shall be commenced and conducted in the same manner that proceedings affecting railroads are now commenced and conducted and appeals from orders of the commission may be taken in the same manner and to the same extent as appeals may be taken from orders of the commission affecting railroads.

[1919 c. 461 s. 6] (5260)

225.07 COMPLIANCE WITH THE ORDER. When in the judgment of the commission any public stock yard fails in any respect to comply with the law, or any repairs or improvements are necessary, or reasonable addition to or change of its stock yard facilities, or any change in the mode of operating such stock yards or conducting its business will promote the security or convenience of the public, the commission, by a written order to be served as a summons in a civil action, shall require compliance with such law or the making of such repairs, additions, or change. In case of disobedience of the order, the commission may cause an action to be commenced for the enforcement thereof.

[1919 c. 461 s. 7] (5261)

225.08 RULES AND REGULATIONS. The commission is hereby authorized and empowered to adopt and enforce reasonable rules and regulations governing the sanitary conditions in public stock yards, the care of the animals therein, the receiving and shipping of the same and the general service performed by public stock yards.

[1919 c. 461 s. 8] (5262)

225.09 CHARGES FOR HAY AND CORN. It shall be unlawful for any public stock yards' operator to sell and deliver at the rate of less than 2,000 pounds for a ton of hay, or any part thereof, or to sell and deliver less than 70 pounds of corn in the ear for a bushel or less than 56 pounds of shelled corn for a bushel.

[1919 c. 461 s. 9] (5263)

225.10 SALE OF DEAD STOCK; PROHIBITED. It shall be unlawful for any public stock yards' operator, or any agent or employee, to prohibit or prevent the owner, or his representative, of any dead stock in such yard from selling or otherwise disposing of such stock.

[1919 c. 461 s. 10] (5264)

225.11 VALUATION OF PUBLIC STOCK YARDS. The commission shall, when it deems the same necessary for the purpose of establishing and fixing a reasonable schedule of charges and prices for driving, watering, feeding, yarding, weighing, and caring for stock and for every kind of service performed by any public stock yards pursuant to sections 225.01 to 225.10, determine the value of all the property of any public stock yards devoted to public use and shall, after notice to the companies operating such public stock yards, hold such public hearings as will give all interested parties a chance to furnish evidence and be heard. For the purpose of sections 225.11 and 225.12 the commission is authorized to appoint engineers, examiners, experts, clerks, accountants, and other assistants as it may deem necessary at such rates of compensation as it may prescribe.

In the discharge of their duties such appointees shall have every power of any inquisitorial nature granted in sections 225.11 and 225.12 to the commission. The commission may conduct any number of investigations contemporaneously through its individual members or appointees and may delegate to its individual members the taking of all testimony on any investigation or hearing.

[Ex. 1919 c. 41 s. 1] (5267)

225.12 PHYSICAL VALUATION; STATEMENT TO BE FILED. It shall be the duty of the commission at all times to keep up the physical valuation of the property of public stock yards and for this purpose may require a detailed statement showing the changes in the physical conditions of the properties of any stock yards company. Such statement shall be filed each year at such time as the commission may direct and shall be verified by the president, chief engineer, or the proper accounting officer of such stock yards company.

[Ex. 1919 c. 41 s. 2] (5268)

225.13 VIOLATION A GROSS MISDEMEANOR. Any person violating the provisions of sections 225.01 to 225.10 shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor; and, upon conviction thereof, punished accordingly.

[1919 c. 461 s. 11] (5265)