

Petition requests improvement to Holberg road maintenance

A month ago, the regional district sent a telegram to the B.C. Minister of Highways informing him that the O'Connor Logging Company's grader was going to be pulled out of the area of the Holberg road in two weeks time.

The telegram asked the minister what equipment support would be given the local ranger in charge of the road.

As of Monday night's regional board meeting, no reply had been received from the department.

Director-elect Fred Mantic of Holberg informed the board that the road was passable that day, an improvement over the previous week.

"The people in the area", Mantic said, "have taken up a petition. The 431 names on it show their disenchantment, and that's a good word for this time of year."

The petition reads:

"We the undersigned do set forth this petition pertaining to the road between Port Hardy, B.C. and Holberg, B.C.

"The first 20 miles of this road is B.C. Forest Service access road and this is the problem at hand.

"This road is our only access to Port Hardy and during the winter the road

becomes almost impassable. The road is also used for medical emergencies being sent to Vancouver.

"We, as taxpayers, would like something done immediately concerning this road."

Director Mantic said he had been able to make arrangements with Rayonier Canada Ltd. for use of

Board agrees with Crown lease

PORT MCNEILL - The regional board Monday night considered the application of Mr. and Mrs. Linscheid of Malcolm Island for an agricultural lease on 2 1/2 acres of Crown land adjoining property they own themselves in Rough Bay.

Director Prestie told the board that he had visited the location and talked with the Linscheids.

"They own a small parcel", Prestie said, "and wish to extend their vegetable garden. I recommend that it be accepted."

The board agreed and will notify the Department of Lands, Forests and Water Resources that it sees no apparent conflict in the lease being granted.

their equipment to clear the road in the case of emergencies, but the company can not commit equipment for other than emergency snow plowing.

As things stand now, there will be no equipment for regular maintenance of this stretch of road during the winter.

"I asked Mrs. (Karen) Sanford (MLA) when she was here", Mantic said, "and she said she didn't know."

The forest ranger has said that his department's equipment is available only for snow plowing and not for routine grading.

Director Klaver observed that while he had sat on the regional board for only one year, that at his very first meeting, Director Bill Moore of Winter Harbour had raised the identical problem.

"Now its a year later", Klaver said, "and we've sent letters and telegrams and shouted and yelled and beat our chests and after the last meeting we made a phone call and still nothing happens."

Director Jack Pickup of Alert Bay said he had been observing this process of inaction and Moore's frustration, not just for one year, but for the past five.

A motion was carried un-

animously to send off another telegram asking for an immediate reply to the one sent a month ago.

Three deer too many

PORT ALICE - Hunters will only be allowed to take one deer each instead of the regular three bag limit, if Port Alice council has its way.

In a resolution presented to council last Thursday by Alderman George Lacey, the fish and wildlife branch will be petitioned to reduce the deer bag limit to one per person.

"I've hunted here for 30 years," Lacey said, "and I'd like to see a reduction of the limit."

"I want my kids able to see deer here when they grow up and the way things are going, they won't be able to," he said.

Mayor Alex MacLeod agreed and recounted a sight he had seen last year when a camper loaded with deer resembled a porcupine on wheels. "There were legs sticking out in all directions," he said, "you've