



County
BENT

DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

October 15, 2008

To It May Concern:

As Director of Kiowa County Economic Development Foundation, I worked, as grant administrator on the Crow Luther Cultural Events Center with the Town of Eads. I continued to provide grant administration services for that project after I relocated to Las Animas, where I now serve as Director for the Bent County Economic Development Foundation.

During that time I had the pleasure of working with Marc Diament Architecture (MDA). MDA's role on the project was particularly important because of the fact that the project lasted so long. During the course of the project, a new Mayor and Town Council were elected, the funding agencies changed, and the role of the grant administrator shifted among different groups – each with its own changes of staff. It was Marc Diament who provided an essential sense of continuity in this changing mix.

As grant administrator, I was responsible for the financial records of the project. This was particularly difficult during construction because we had a contractor that was uncooperative in providing the required financial information. Marc was careful to help us secure the needed information from the contractor so that we could do our best to maintain proper records. Though I was not directly involved in the actual construction project, I also aware that MDA made tremendous efforts to make sure that the contractor was building the project correctly and to insist that faulty work be made right.

I was grateful for Marc's willingness to take time to talk with me about the many overlapping requirements of the different funding agencies and how information might best be presented to those agencies. Though I understand that architects do not normally do these things, Marc willingly pitched in to help out with grant writing and grant administration. Marc spent whatever time was needed to explain the overall process to people involved in the project and to provide encouragement when the success of the project was in question. This was a high level of service that wasn't required of MDA, but was surely appreciated.

MDA was careful to provide contracts, invoices, and statements documenting their own dealings with the Town. We got these on time and in an organized way. If I ever had questions, I knew that I could call on Marc to provide a prompt and understandable answer.

I hope that I will have the opportunity to work with MDA on future projects, and would be happy to answer any other questions about their work.

Sincerely,

Lisa Trigilio
Executive Director