



May 27, 2016

Dear Business Record,

I am EXCITED to recommend Barb Kniff McCulla for your Business Woman of the Year award. She exemplifies the qualities of leadership and vision so important in entrepreneurial businesses. I have witnessed this not only in her business operations, but in her community involvement within our area.

She currently serves as Chair-Elect on the Marion County Development Commission, a department of county government working in economic development and tourism. She has brought to our commission a great level of professionalism. Barb is willing to spend time finding real solutions to challenges which face our area. In addition, she has served for several years on the Pella Area Development Corporation board. By being involved in economic development efforts as a leader, she is helping to lead this region into continued growth and prosperity.

As a leader, Barb leads by example. She is caring and communicative which are key components in leading staff and influencing policy makers. Barb is never afraid to ask difficult questions and willing to compromise to find the best solutions. She also understands as a business leader it is her role to give back to the community and is a contributor to many community projects.

In her business, Barb has stepped into the CEO role and surrounded herself with quality staff. She is constantly looking for opportunities to advance her company and has positioned her company for growth. She is an amazing networking professional which allows her to connect people.

In short, Barb Kniff McCulla is an exemplary business leader in a male dominated industry whose dedication to her community make her truly award worthy. Please contact me at <u>carla@redrockarea.com</u> if you have any further questions.

Cordially,

Carla Eysink

Carla Eysink, IOM Executive Director Marion County Development Commission