

Jan. 22, 1985 lexico Outdoor Drama Association, Inc. BOX 337 . SAN JON, NEW MEXICO 88434

Dear Kermit and Frank:

Directors:

SEN. CALEB CHANDLER Honorary Clovis

IDA FELLERS Honorary Deming

JAN PARKER Honorary Logan

WILLIAM BRUMMUND Clovis

DR. ELWYN CRUME Clovis

JUDGE STANLEY FROST Tucumcari

MAYOR JENE KLAVERWEIDEN Tucumcari

DON MCALAVY President Clovis

I'm not sure you are aware of the financial situation regarding BILLY; so Ithought I'd best appraise or pemind you of it.

At this point there is not enough money to pay for the recording of any music, let alone the production costs. The original budget was estimated at \$347,425. I have revised it and got it down to \$273,695. I hope to go over it again with Betty and Don and try to shave it even further.

Frank said that this project might qualify for a National Endowment Grant of approximately \$80,000. This would certainly cover the music facet of \$36,800 and pay some initial production expenses. When will it be known if the project qualifies, and if it does, when could the money be experted? Without that grant, it would be impossible to pay

JUDGE REUBEN NIEVES Clovis

BETTY PHILLEY Executive Director 1 505 576-2455 San Jon

HUGH RILEY Tucumcari

Vice President Grady

MARY LOUISE VIGIL Sec.-Treas. Logan

Director of Development EDWARD L. MELIN 1 806 373-2728 Amarillo, Texas

the music-arrangement-taping costs as originally scheduled. If the production were to go ahead on speculation of money coming in from local fundraising, we might have to think of live music for the most part by musicians who would be part of the cast. Let me know your thoughts regarding this.

The SWTC auditions at Ft. Worth were encouraging. SEN. KENNETH SCHLIENTZ There were some very talented young people there; both MAYOR RALPH STANFIELD Performers and tech people.

But we cannot even make a commitment to hire any of these until there are sufficient funds to insure that the show will in fact go on this year and they will be employed for the entire summer. And those we have chosen cannot be held off too long as many of them have had other offers. We are going along with auditions, planning of staging, conferences with tech people, costumers. choreographers just as if we were in fact going into production. But not a single thing can actually be done





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There is a board meeting, Thursday, Jan. 24; after which the first week in February will be a target date to determine the potential of raising funds this year.

If we can't start making commitments at that time, there will hardly be enough time after that to set up a full scale production (construction of sets, lights, costumes, sound) in less that three months prior to rehearsal.

Even though it might be a disappointment to the people who have labored 9 years on this project, it would be wiser to postpone for another year, during which the money could be raised.

Better to disappoint a few people now than the whole state of New Mexico if we are unable to mount a first rate production because of lack of funding.

An alternative might be to do a less spectacular and less demanding version of the play, on a limited budget, for a short time (2 or 3 weeks) with local talent and a local director.

It might be a good barometer for a future full scale production as far as seeing what attendance might be; audience reaction to the play, and the theatre; and garnering additional support from the community and the state.

Let me know your thoughts regarding this. Awaiting your reply.



- Charles

Charles

cc? Betty Philley, Don McAlavy

