

## **WSF 2021 ANNUAL REPORT #5187**

**(Nebraska Bostwick Storage Enhancement and Retiming Project)**

**This report is the fourth annual report since the application for this project was awarded funding.**

**Rubicon crews finished installing all gate structures from the Harlan County Reservoir down to the end of the Franklin Canal before the 2019 water season. However, getting all the gates under Total Canal Control (TCC) did not occur in 2020. This involves the computer being able to control all gates and several of the sites that were utilizing under-shot gates instead of flume gates would not allow the TCC to operate correctly. All the gates were finished to the point that the NBID employees were able to operate the gates manually during the 2020 water season as well as manually operating them with computer control out of the Red Cloud office. After many days, and nights, the Rubicon team and Bostwick agreed that to get the system to operate correctly, the under-shot gates would need to be replaced with flume gates. Rubicon agreed to do this at their expense. We finished out the water season manually and the Bostwick employees began preparing the structures to fit the new flume gates. These will be in place at the start of the 2021 water season, so hopefully, the system can be brought under TCC control.**

**The Rubicon computer server and technical equipment are in place in the Red Cloud office. Radio antennas and radios are all installed at the Red Cloud and Franklin offices including the new 100' tower in Franklin, to relay information to and from each gate site.**

**The Coronavirus has again affected this project as well, due to the fact that their employees were not allowed to travel. Once the ban was lifted, they are here to finish up their work. Currently, the plan calls for all of the \$3.2 million to be used in 2021.**

**Once the Franklin Canal is diverting water, the TCC tuning will occur and Rubicon will work with NBID for as long as it takes for our employees to operate and fine-tune the system. In 2020, even operating the system manually, there was a noticeable drop in the amount of water the canal was losing and wasting out the end of the canal. It will be exciting to see the outcomes of all the hard work and effort.**

**Tracy Smith, Manager NBID**

**May 25, 2021**