

# WSF 2020 FINAL REPORT FOR APPLICATION #4162

## REPURPOSING POKORNY DAM

### VILLAGE OF HOWELLS

128 North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, P.O. Box 351 Howells, NE. 68641

402-986-1666 [hockl@megavision.com](mailto:hockl@megavision.com)

This is the close out report for the Village of Howells project for Repurposing Pokorny Dam (Water Sustainability Fund, application #4162)

#### Results of the Project

The Village of Howells has completed the modifications to the Pokorny Dam as outlined in the application. This included upgrading and retrofitting this high hazard earthen dam. The height of the dam was raised approximately three feet, and an auxiliary spillway was added to comply with regulatory requirements for High Hazard Dams. Construction was completed in August 2018.

The final reimbursement request has been submitted in the amount of \$23,326.50. Total reimbursement for the project will total \$100,546.59 and has been paid to the vendors.

#### Project Benefits

We believe the benefits anticipated in the application were realized. By raising the height of the dam and creating an auxiliary spillway the DNR and NRCS requirements for a High Hazard Dam were realized. These elements created additional protection from peak flood flows as well as an emergency spillway to prevent catastrophic failure from overtopping the dam. These benefits were realized during the Spring Floods of 2019, when water filled the dam to the top, without overtopping and no downstream flooding was incurred.

By the redesign and construction, the dam will provide a shallow water habitat and wetlands for water fowl and wildlife. This can be observed throughout the entire year as water fowl, many other species of birds, deer and many other wildlife species are seen utilizing the area.

The repurposed dam will employ proven BMP's to improve the water quality of Maple Creek and its tributary. The dam captures agricultural runoff which runs through the structure and prevents contaminants such as sediment, nitrogen, phosphorus and other harmful bacteria from flowing downstream.

Last but not least the redesign and construction of the Pokorny Dam allows the structure to capture rainfall, runoff and groundwater seeps generated from hydrologically connected groundwater-surface water. This impounded water will ultimately provide for recharge to the aquifer.

The Village of Howells appreciates the partnership with the Water Sustainability Fund and looks forward to future partnerships.

Submitted by     Dawn Gall     Title     Village Clerk