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For Immediate Release

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Barron Electric Cooperative and CoBank Team up for Safety

Barron Electric Cooperative and CoBank teamed up to donate \$2,000 to the Spooner Fire District. The funds will be used for Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). SCBA is the mask and air bottle that firefighters wear to ensure they have clean air while working in any environment involving smoke, gases, or fumes. The Spooner Fire District covers an area of 332 square miles across Washburn and Burnett Counties, encompassing the City of Spooner and 11 townships. Darren Vik, the Fire Chief of the Spooner Fire District, stated, "We have exceptional firefighters, and we aim to equip them with the best tools. We are truly grateful for Barron Electric's generous donation, which aids us in achieving this goal."

Aaron Torud, General Manager of Barron Electric Cooperative, expressed, "We commend the effort of our local fire departments and recognize the vital role they play in our local communities. We take pride in supporting this safety initiative."

CoBank, the lender for Barron Electric, is dedicated to giving back to the communities they serve. In 2025, they plan to match \$6 million through their Sharing Success Program. The funds for Barron Electric's donations come from the Federated Youth Foundation, which manages unclaimed cashback credits from former members. The foundation has specific guidelines on how these funds can be utilized. Legally, Barron Electric cannot use unclaimed cashback credits to lower rates.
