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**NEWS RELEASE** 

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## UNITED COOPERATIVE SUPPORTS BEAVER DAM WATER RESCUE

BEAVER DAM, WIS. – The Beaver Dam Fire Department is raising money to fund its water rescue program. United Cooperative, a farmer-owned cooperative responded with a \$10,000 donation. Communities surrounding Beaver Dam Lake are responsible for covering a portion of the total cost for the new rescue equipment, and this donation will be allocated to those areas.

"These funds will help prepare Beaver Dam's response teams with water rescue equipment that is necessary to keep first responders safe and give victims the best possible chance in an unfortunate situation," said David Cramer, President and CEO of United Cooperative.

Fire Chief Alan Mannel knows just how useful this equipment can be. "Since 2009 we have had an estimated 15 to 20 water rescue incidents," he said. "A risk management assessment puts a water rescue call in the high-risk/low-frequency category, which is the most dangerous for rescuers and victims alike. These calls resulted in several people being assisted to safety, two bona fide rescues, and, unfortunately, one fatality. This generous donation has allowed us to replace aging rescue suits and add drydive suits to our inventory of water rescue equipment."

## **ABOUT US:**

Formed in 1936, United Cooperative is a full-service cooperative offering feed, grain, agronomy, and energy products and services to Wisconsin farmers and consumers. United Cooperative has locations in Auroraville, Baraboo, Beaver Dam, Coleman, Deerfield, Denmark, Greenville, Gresham, Hartford, Hillsboro, Horicon, Hustisford, Johnson Creek, Kendall, Mayville, Oconto Falls, Ontario, Oshkosh, Pickett, Poynette, Prairie du Sac, Pulaski, Reedsburg, Ripon, Rock Springs, Sauk City, Shawano, South Beaver Dam, Westfield, Wilton, Wonewoc and Wyocena. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.unitedcooperative.com">www.unitedcooperative.com</a>.