

# News FOR YOU...

Barron Electric Cooperative  
December 2020  
Photo by Janis Volker

## Making a Difference in the Community

**B**arron Electric Cooperative and CoBank teamed up to provide a \$2,000 donation to Cumberland Area Ski Touring Association (CASTA). This organization was instrumental in building Timberland Hills and Timberland West cross country ski trails. Barron Electric's General Manager Dallas Sloan said, "We are thrilled to help support a project that promotes northwest Wisconsin and encourages wellness."

"CASTA is very appreciative to Barron Electric Cooperative and CoBank for this generous donation. The Timberland Hills Ski Trail has become a year-round destination for a variety of trail users. Our non-profit organization must rely on donations to maintain and groom our trails, which are open to the public. Thank you for your support," remarked Louis K. Muench, CASTA President. Timberland Hills is located approximately nine miles northwest of Cumberland on County Highway H. Cross country skiers can enjoy the beauty of the Burnett County Forest on a 30 kilometer trail. Timberland West is a 2.5 kilometer lighted ski trail just south of Timberland Hills, which makes its way through 500 acres of Barron County Forest land. During the ski season, the lights are on from dusk to 11 p.m. With



*Mandy Straw, Director of Finance at Barron Electric, presents a \$2,000 check to CASTA represented by Jim Cotone, past President; Jane Nickell, secretary; Gloria Meyers, board member; and Louis Muench, President. This organization was instrumental in building Timberland Hills and Timberland West cross country ski trails.*

gently rolling terrain and no large hills, this trail is great for beginners. Visit [timberlandhills.com](http://timberlandhills.com) for more information.

The \$2,000 donation includes a match from Barron Electric's lender, CoBank, who administers the Sharing Success Program. The program is designed to match the contributions of CoBank

customers to the charitable groups they support throughout rural America. Funds for Barron Electric donations are derived from the Federated Youth Foundation, an administrative trust overseeing unclaimed capital credits of former members.



# Holiday LIGHTING Safety

Use only holiday lights that have been safety tested and have the **UL** label.



Before using, **check each strand** for broken sockets, frayed cords, or faulty plugs.

Don't string together more than **three** standard-sized incandescent sets of lights or you could **overload the circuit**.



**Don't throw lights** over tree branches that are **near power lines** and service connections.

**Always unplug lights** before leaving your home or going to bed; a timer can help with this.



Learn more at  
**Safe  
Electricity.org**

**Merry Christmas  
and Happy New Year!**  
Our office will be closed  
on **Friday, December 25**  
and **Friday, January 1**.  
Have a safe and healthy  
holiday season.



## Potatoes Make the Holidays Brighter



Barron Electric Cooperative partnered with Nuto Farms to donate 3,250 pounds of potatoes to thirteen local food pantries in Barron, Birchwood, Cameron, Chetek, Cumberland, Hayward, Prairie Farm, Rice Lake, Shell Lake, Spooner, and Turtle Lake. Dallas Sloan, Barron Electric's General Manager remarked, "I am proud of our employees' commitment to our communities. These potatoes will make the season a little brighter for those in need." This donation will help 650 families. Pictured is Dave Swanson of We Share Food Pantry. He remarked, "We are excited to receive these potatoes as we were unable to receive more from our distributor."

## Employee Spotlight



Meet Jennifer Horstman, Barron Electric's Executive Secretary. She remarked, "It has been a great experience working at the cooperative supporting the General Manager, Board of Directors and employees. I enjoy providing support to ensure everyone involved with the cooperative has the information and tools they need to provide excellent service to all of our members." Jennifer graduated from Barron High School. She has a Bachelors Degree in Retail Merchandising and Management with a minor in Business Administration from the University of Wisconsin-Stout. Prior to working at Barron Electric, Jennifer was a Deputy County Clerk for Barron County. She also worked as an Administrative Assistant at Mayo Clinic Health System - Northland. Jennifer and her husband, Jason, have one daughter, Jada, and a dog, Baxter.

# Dairyland Power Cooperative Approves 50% CO2 Reduction Goal by 2030

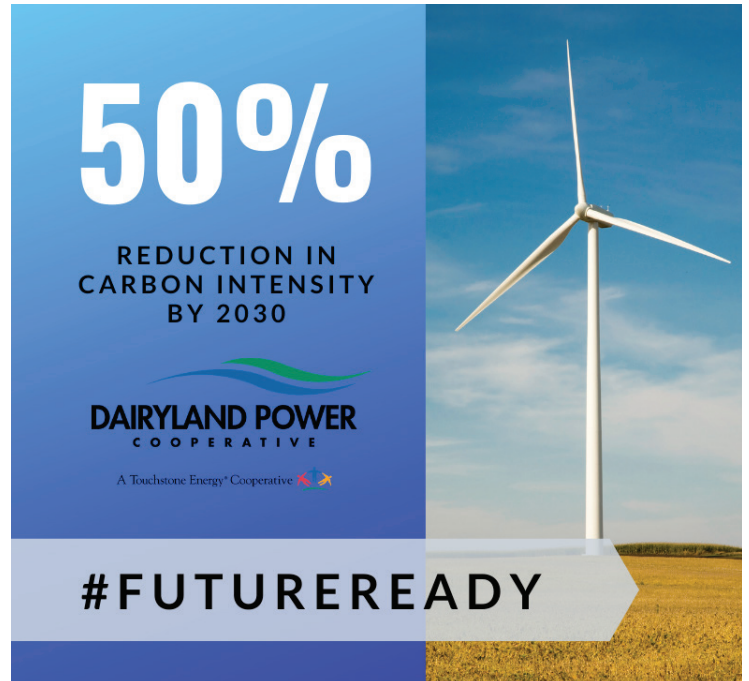
Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC) strategically develops power supply plans to determine their future energy mix and anticipate the long-term needs of their cooperative members, including Barron Electric. Their Sustainable Generation Plan provides a framework for the decisions influencing their energy portfolio. Carbon reduction and system reliability are central considerations. Dairyland's Board of Directors approved the SPG team's proposed goal of 50 percent reduction in carbon dioxide intensity rate by 2030. The carbon emission rate reduction is based on 2005 levels.

Dairyland's focus is on reducing economy-wide carbon emissions. Their initiatives to foster beneficial electrification, combined with investments in renewable resources, support this evolution. Significant additions of wind and solar renewable energy will continue to be made, as well as plans for the Nemadji Trail Energy Center.

Nemadji is a combined cycle natural gas plant that will support the addition of renewable energy through its ability to ramp up quickly, providing reliable power when the wind isn't blowing and the sun isn't shining.

Dairyland's renewable energy investments include a Power Purchase Agreement with Ranger Power for the proposed 149 MW Badger State Solar facility in Wisconsin and a PPA with Avangrid Renewables for the proposed 52 MW Tatanka Ridge wind energy facility in South Dakota. Tatanka Ridge is scheduled

to come online at the end of December. Construction of Badger State is expected to be in-service in November 2022. Dairyland also announced the decision to retire Genoa #3 coal-fired power plant in 2021.



Information Source: Dairyland Power Cooperative

## Enter the Photo Contest

*Winning photo receives a \$50 Credit*

E-mail your winter photos for our photo contest. The winning photo will be used on the cover of the *News for You*, and the winner will receive a \$50 credit on their electric bill. Criteria for the photos include:

- Photos must have a horizontal orientation (landscape).
- Photos must be high resolution, at least 300 dpi.
- Member must own rights to the photo.
- E-mail your digital image to [memberservices@barronelectric.com](mailto:memberservices@barronelectric.com) by December 9, 2020. Include your Barron Electric account number, address, and phone number.
- By submitting your photo, you are granting Barron Electric permission to use your photo in a variety of publications and on our website.







## Outdoor Holiday Lighting Contest

We are looking for your outdoor holiday lighting photos. The winner will receive a \$25 credit on their January bill, along with some Barron Electric goodies.

- Member must own rights to the photo.
- Photo must be member's home and equipment.
- E-mail your digital image to [memberservices@barronelectric.com](mailto:memberservices@barronelectric.com) by December 16, 2020. Include your Barron Electric account number, address, and phone number.
- By submitting your photo, you are granting Barron Electric permission to use your photo in a variety of publications and on our website.

## News FOR YOU...

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If you have any comments regarding the newsletter, please e-mail  
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Barron Electric is an equal  
opportunity provider.



## \*Condensed Board Minutes

September 30, 2020



Randy Cook is President of Barron Electric's Board of Directors and represents District 7, which includes the following townships: Stanley, Sumner, Strickland, Stubbs, Rusk, and Big Bend.

*\* View full board minutes on SmartHub.*

- Director Kessler gave the treasurer's report. A report of vouchers for the month was presented as part of the board packet as follows: #97982 thru #98176 of CCF Bank was in the amount of \$610,290 and capital credit estate checks in the amount of \$13,592. Director Kessler reported on activity of total receipts in the office - \$3,242,609; total receipts by wire and ACH - \$2,370,305; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire - \$4,687,036; transfer of funds was made for payroll - \$199,774 and power bill paid 09/30/2020 in the amount of \$2,265,143.
- Form 219 summarizing construction activity for the month of August in the amount of \$158,021.15 was presented for approval, and included new services - \$6,767.13; change jobs - \$37,388.74; miscellaneous - \$113,865.28 and 5 retirements. The Form 219 stood approved as presented.
- Outages through the month of August stand at 74,041 consumer hours off, which is 82.28% below 2019 hours of 417,795. Overtime year-to-date is 2,763.00 hours, which is 43.26% below 2019 hours of 4,869.25.



## Harvest Time for Barron FFA Crop Project

Barron Electric donated eight-acres of land to Barron High School's FFA Chapter to use for a crop demonstration project. 2020 marks the tenth year of this partnership. Barron FFA Advisor and Agricultural Teacher Kristin Hanson said, "Funds raised from this project are used to provide FFA memberships for every agricultural education student at the Barron High School, reaching over 115 students each year. These members are able to take part in the many leadership development and community service programs offered by the Barron FFA. The proceeds have provided scholarship funds for graduating seniors' postsecondary education."