

## ERARC MEETING

February 2, 2026

## PRELIMINARIES

Meeting began at 7:00 pm. Seven people in attendance and three guests on Zoom. Visitors included Bill Devlin of Bland County who is testing online for his Technician license.

David Lester, N8VFR, welcomed the group. The pledge to the flag was recited by the group.

## PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The January meeting minutes were read by David Lester and accepted by the group. Items included:

David, N8VFR, asked the group to read about the Campaign to Pass Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act. <https://www.arrl.org/current-legislation> Members were encouraged to fill out the online submission on the ARRL.org webpage. The submissions will be submitted as letters to Congress for legislation to pass. This bill would make HOA restrictions on Amateur and GMRS operators illegal to impose. Nelson, WZ8E, is planning another Blast Class around February 27 and 28. More information to come later. The ERARC website has been totally redesigned. David, N8VFR, has asked for feedback, corrections and additions to the new club webpage. David requested a day of inventory of assets and materials. Once conducted, the club can determine what to keep, sell, give away and trash. After showing the Baofeng UV-5R mini radio:

<https://www.radioddity.com/products/baofeng-uv-5r-mini>

The group voted on a motion to purchase 20 radios to be given to new hams or members at the pleasure of the club. David asked the club to consider raising annual dues. Discussion followed with the item being tabled until next meeting. The POTA "Support your parks weekend" was held January 17-18. The attendees met at Pinnacle Rock Park on Sunday January 18 enduring the bitter cold temperatures. Winter Field Day participants on January 24-25 shared the weekend with the ARES/ RACES Nets monitoring traffic during the cold snap. <https://pota.app/#/>

**Jay Belt, K8CTI, furnished and read a treasurer's report dated February 2, 2026. Total credits were \$75.00 and debits were \$353.21. We are accepting dues for the coming year at \$20/amateur with \$5 per family member. The PayPal link is listed on the website: [www.HamclubOnline.com](http://www.HamclubOnline.com).**

## OLD BUSINESS

"The club did purchase a hand talkie to replace the donated transceiver for the 100<sup>th</sup> State Fair of WV giveaway."

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Coordination of the 147.06 and 145.25 repeaters is ongoing. Jay, K8CTI, purchased twenty Baofeng HTs for gifting to new hams and others as seen fit by the club. The Charleston Hamfest will be Saturday March 7, 2026 at the Beni Kedem Temple on Quarrier Street. Matt, KC8LGS, discussed the ARES, RACES and Skywarn net participation during the extreme cold weather. HF and the ARA Repeaters were monitored. A workday for the 911 Center equipment will be announced soon. A VE test session is scheduled for Saturday February 14. Five people have signed up to attend. The 145.49 and 145.25 repeaters are linked for ARES and Skywarn Nets. Please continue filling out the ARRL online form for the Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act if not done so. Please support future POTA activations at Pinnacle Rock Park. A new Blast Class is still to be confirmed by Nelson, WZ8E. After discussion, the group voted to raise the member dues to \$20 annually beginning January 2027. Grant writing to stress the participation of the club in ARES Nets and activities was encouraged.

**A MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED TO ADJOURN AT 8:00pm**