

**EASTERN CONNECTICUT AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION (ECARA)
Monthly Meeting, February 8, 2026**



This report respectfully submitted by John, K1JFT

The Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Association (ECARA) held its regular monthly meeting on February 8, 2026 at 7:00 pm at the East Putnam Fire Station, 263 Providence Pike, East Putnam, CT. Monthly meetings are normally held at 7:00 pm on the second Monday of the month at the East Putnam Fire Station.

ATTENDEES: 20 members were present.

SECRETARIES REPORT for January 12, 2026:

ECARA President John, K1CSP read the secretaries report for the January, 2026 meeting. A motion was made to accept the report, which was seconded and carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Reported by Treasurer Jeff, W1QL

- The current balance of the ECARA account is \$6,549.91.
- Jeff then explained that he needed to order checks so that he could issue checks on the account. A motion was made for treasurer Jeff, W1QL to purchase checks, the motion was seconded and carried. Jeff also stated he would issue a check to Jon, KA1MPG to pay for the Raceway Restaurant for Hamfest space.
- Jeff and John, K1CSP had transferred their names to the ECARA bank account and obtained a new Federal EIN number as we had no record on the old one.
- Jeff then explained that he will be making the following changes to the ECARA account and club business practices.
 1. Adding a Pay-pal account
 2. Producing a new master list of members on a shared drive
 3. Conducting an audit of the account
 4. Checking on the need to pay taxes

A motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the Treasurer's Report.

EASTERN CONNECTICUT AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION (ECARA)

Monthly Meeting, February 8, 2026

OLD BUSINESS:

ECARA Trailer:

- President John, K1CSP advised the club that EDS Mechanical will be installing a mini-split HVAC unit on the ECARA Trailer. John explained that the trailer will need modifications and that he and John, K1JFT will make modifications prior to installation.
- John, K1CSP also stated he was contacted by ESF-2 DEMHS Team Leader, Wayne, who agreed to purchase approximately \$2500.00 in new radio equipment for the trailer.

ECARA Hamfest, April 26

- John stated that Vice- President Jon, KA1MPG, who was absent from this meeting, had made flyers which he wanted to distribute to the Marlboro Flea Market.
- John, K1CSP also stated that we will need volunteers to help move tables to and from the East Putnam Fire House to the Raceway Restaurant for Hamfest.

NEW BUSINESS:

O'Putnam Road Race:

Reported by Terry G, KC1WOH, John, K1CSP, John, K1JFT

Scheduled for Sunday March 8, 2026. Terry G, KC1WOH will transport the ECARA Communications Trailer to the Main Street commuter lot. John, K1JFT will be Net Control for the race. John, K1JFT then asked for five volunteers. Grant, KC1OMA, Terry, KC1WOH, Jason, N7PRD and Mark, KC1TPF volunteered to help. One additional member will be needed to complete the roster.

VE Testing:

Ed, K1ZE spoke about the changes made to the VE Testing. The test is now taken via computer, and it is making it difficult to conduct the exams. A suggestion was made to speak to ARRL leadership and inquire about the testing procedure.

CERT Saturday:

John, K1JFT reminded members that the event is scheduled for June 13, 2026, for members who are CERT trained. John also announced that a new CERT class is scheduled for March 12, 2026, to March 28, 2026 in Putnam.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 pm, which was seconded and carried.