

# Vehicle Inspection Advisory Committee (VIAC)

## Meeting Minutes

April 16, 2019

### **1. Call To Order**

The regular meeting of the Vehicle Inspection Advisory Committee (VIAC) was called to order at 1:31 p.m. on April 16, 2019 at DPS, Building I, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Executive Conference Room.

### **2. Roll Call**

#### **Present**

Shawn Dintino	Co-Chairman	North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG)
Abel Porras	Co-Chairman	Inspection Station Owner
David Lewis		Emission Testing Equipment Manufacturer
Tommy Hebson		Vehicle Equipment Repair
Ken Jones		Retired – Station Owner
Calvin Lucas		Safety and Emission Station Owner
Jay Lucas		
Edgar Gilmore	Program Coordinator	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
David Serrins	Program Coordinator	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Walker Williamson	Program Coordinator	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
JoJo Heselmeyer	Senior Manager	Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)
Jay Alexander	Major	Texas Department of Public Safety
Pablo Luna	Program Manager	Texas Department of Public Safety
Sarah Gaytan	Program Manager	Texas Department of Public Safety
Lawrence Cortez	Program Inspector	Texas Department of Public Safety
Leslie Stevens	Executive Assistant	Texas Department of Public Safety

### **3. Minutes from January 16, 2019**

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

### **4. Remarks from DPS and TCEQ**

#### **DPS:**

JoJo Heselmeyer stated that a few bills have come up in which DPS has had to go down to the Capital to testify before the Texas Legislature. Recently SB87 was added, which would eliminate the vehicle safety program. She stated that Pablo Luna and Oscar Ybarra would be going to the Capital to offer resource testimony.

Currently in the Transportation Committee is SB87, by Hall, which would end safety inspections. Also in the Homeland Security Committee is the bill to increase the Moped fee and eliminate OBD limit.

Finally she stated that everyone could watch the committee hearings of the Texas Legislature online.

#### **TCEQ:**

David Serrins stated that TCEQ was also following the Legislative session closely and have seen the same bills mentioned by DPS.

Air check LIRAP in Dallas and Houston is shutting down. The last day to accept applications was April 8<sup>th</sup>, with vouchers expiring in May. In the Austin area the last day to accept applications is May 1<sup>st</sup>, with vouchers expiring May 31<sup>st</sup>.

Finally he stated that TCEQ and DPS were working on a plan to discuss the end of tailpipe testing, which will end January 2020.

## **5. Old Business**

### **a. Legislative Update:**

Shawn Dintino stated HB1692 would add safety recall information to the inspection reports. If a vehicle has an active safety recall it would be printed on the VIR. The current language does not mandate this, as it states “may”, not “shall”.

HB2604 will be heard April 17<sup>th</sup>. Currently approximately 1800 OBD inspections can be performed. This bill would take away the maximum number that can be done. If this passes it could have an effective date anywhere from September 1, 2019 to January 1, 2020.

David Lewis asked if this information can start being publicized in the field; if advance language could be given to auditors. JoJo stated that DPS is working on a plan to do that, but is not ready yet. She further stated DPS will begin meeting monthly with TCEQ regarding this and should have a plan in 3 months.

HB2253 by Israel and SB1070 by Patterson, concerning LIRAP, have shown no movement yet.

### **b. Remote Sensing Update:**

Data began being collected in February, with March being the first full month of data collection:

- 131, 000 samples
- 358 flags
- 34 high emitter notices sent

### **c. VIAC Travel Reimbursement Funding Status:**

JoJo acknowledged that while it is authorized in law there is no rider for funding. Until a rider is in place travel reimbursement is not possible.

### **d. Status Update for Open Public Interest VIAC Seat:**

JoJo Heselmeyer stated that DPS was forwarded a nomination today. They received the person’s DL, etc. and would work with Major Alexander on doing a background check. Once that is completed DPS will be in touch with the nominee.

### **Action Item:**

Forward any recommendations to fill the public interest seat vacancy to DPS.

## **6. New Business**

### **a. State Agency Efforts to Implement VIAC Suggestions:**

It was stated that there is frustration for the VIAC and industry regarding hitting dead ends when it comes to Legislative suggestions. It was asked if there were a way for DPS and/or TCEQ to advance items to Legislators for consideration. JoJo stated that for DPS there is not a way, as the Legislature doesn’t ask DPS for anything beyond resource information. She stated that when asked, DPS can point out potential conflicts, but that is the extent of what they are allowed to do. She stated that she currently does not know of any mechanism that can be used, but would reach out to other legislatively savvy people to see if they have any ideas.

Edgar Gilmore stated TCEQ had the same stance as DPS on this matter and are limited in what their Agency is allowed to do in this regard.

### **7. Public Comment:**

No comments at this time.

### **8. Future Agenda Items:**

Update on OBD plan

#### **Action Item:**

DPS and TCEQ will provide information regarding OBD plan.

Update on Legislation

#### **Action Item:**

DPS and TCEQ will provide information regarding Legislative changes.

JoJo commented that David Lewis voiced concern regarding having difficulty getting in touch with people when needed in regards to doing unlocks. He had stated that the Hurst office takes calls but the Plano office was hit or miss in reaching someone. JoJo suggested that maybe getting the most updated list of contacts in the field would be a solution. Edgar asked that TCEQ be included on the contact list.

#### **Action Item:**

DPS to provide a plan for communication improvement as it relates to doing unlocks.

### **9. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held July 10, 2019.

### **10. Adjourn**

Shawn Dintino adjourned the meeting at 2:06 pm.