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## Meeting Notes

10:00 AM

Welcome: Introductions

- TxDOT Update
- Executive Committee Member Update
  - NHTSA has recommended that Texas should establish a DWI tracking database. This effort will require data and input from several sources. Brian Grubbs has graciously recommended stepping down from the TxIDTF Executive Committee. Jim Markham, Director of TxDOT's Crash Data Analysis section has agreed to serve as the Executive Committee (EC) member for Impaired Driving Data. Brian will continue to provide valuable representation of the LEADRS program on the TxIDTF and ultimately the establishment of a tracking system.
  - Dr. Charles Mathias has accepted a position at Rice University and does not have the capacity to participate on the task force. We appreciate his service and wish him the best with his new role. Dr. Troy Walden has agreed to serve as the EC member representing Research. Thank you to Dr. Walden for stepping in to fill this role.
- DWI Tracking Database
  - Looking forward into fiscal year 25, there are projects that have been recommended for funding by TxDOT that will address establishing a DWI tracking database. If approved, the DWI tracking database will be built around the LEADRS model, as that program is an excellent foundation. A new subcommittee will be convened to work on this effort. It will be a collaborative effort between members of the TxIDTF and the Traffic Records Coordinating Committee (TRCC).

**Larry Krantz**

New Business:

- Texas Police Chiefs Association (TPCA) Invitation
  - Lt. Kevin Harris delivered the invitation to TPCA at their last meeting. The invitation was accepted and representatives from TPCA will join future task force meetings.
- Review NHTSA Recommendations from February Meeting
  - Legislative Support: MADD, Smart Start, Texans for Safe and Drug-Free Youth, and National Safety Council. These organizations can lobby if there is a need.
  - Military / Veteran Representation: Emma Dugas (MADD) is working with Responsibility.org for a contact in Texas. Jim Markham (TxDOT) would also like to participate in this effort.
  - School Resource Officers (SRO): The prevention subcommittee will brainstorm how to support SROs at their next subcommittee meeting.
  - Tribal Contacts: Several members discussed their work with tribal representatives. There was a concern about NHTSA regulations

**Christine Adams**

that could impede interaction with the tribes. Carol Campa (TxDOT) offered to ask at her next NHTSA meeting how we should proceed on this topic.

10:30 AM

#### Quarterly Updates

- **Impaired Driving Database - LEADRS** **Brian Grubbs**
  - Chris Clements, recently retired Assistant Chief of Lewisville Police Department was invited to present. He has utilized LEADRS for most of his career as an officer, and knows the system well.
  - Lewisville has an agency STEP program – Brian described how their data looks compared to TxDOT-funded STEP programs.
  - Data does have integration with TABC. LEADRS prompts officers to answer if the driver left a business that serves alcohol.
  - \*\*\*911 calls to dispatch are the number 1 reason officers know to go check on a potential impaired driver
  - LEADRS provides real world data that is not simulated, which is unattainable if done by a study (where BAC levels are suppressed and not a true representation of what officers see on the streets); helpful when validating SFSTs
  - Can use this data to evaluate officers after they are trained
  - LEADRS is collecting driving behaviors based on what they are seeing in SFSTs, which increases officers' credibility and helps identify driving behaviors that are consistent with offenses.
  - No arrest decisions? Way to track that with SFST investigations? Is there value in that; is it worth pursuing? Getting the BAC is the problem.
    - Response to inquiry above: Is valuable. Could say not only did we take the impaired drivers off the road, but also let the innocents free as well. The tests conducted allowed for proper assessment of their decision-making. Validates benefits of project for arrests and releasing those who are innocent. Makes it a more robust project.
  - TxDOT is fielding agency use of uploading data to eGrants
  - Also tracks attitude / clothing of defendant
  - Access to data right now – LE agencies only right now; want to continue getting LE buy in before they release it to the public
- **Forensic Testing** **Trevis Beckworth**
  - Toxicology Blood kit shortage; vendor – supply chain issue. They are back in stock now. If LE agencies need some, let them know they are back in stock. Will allow use of 3<sup>rd</sup> party supplied kits while stock depleted
  - Average of 94% of blood alcohol reports are released in 30 days or less through DPS lab
  - Working to train more breath test operators; class offered through DPS for free generally. They'll bring it to your jurisdiction. Classes listed on website.
  - New facility construction underway. August of '25 to be fully completed, working to hire more, but right now, there is no room to house new employees.
  - Drug tox outsourcing → ~1800; processes are slightly different, trying to make those ways mesh – ensure the reports get to right people, logistics associated. THC validation – want THC method to be more robust. Been outsourcing THC for now, but close to DPS processing
    - Delta 8 in method now, also attempting Delta 10



- Prosecution/Legislative **Clay Abbott**
  - No signal that a lot will be done related to traffic safety in the upcoming legislative session.
  - Legislative subcommittee will have questions, prosecutors will have questions / present best practices, etc. Now is the time to ask. (October is the meeting)
  - Cannabis & Alcohol Subcommittee **Christine Adams**
    - THC Seltzer Vendors – numbers from Nov meeting to February meeting (bars and restaurants); 47 to 101
    - Subcommittee updates, concerns to address, action items; reviewed conversations with Dept. of Agriculture, DPS, Tennessee
    - THC-A: once combusted, THC, no longer below 0.3%
    - DSHS Rules overview and asking them questions
    - Dan Patrick's office – state affairs committee to examine banning Delta-8 and Delta-9 (should be Delta-10) - 2024 interim legislative charges
    - Subcommittee meeting in May:
      - Any members want to be in the cannabis and alcohol subcommittee? Reach out to Christine.
      - Topics to exploring:
        - Brian has data can share (in relation to written questions to DSHS)
      - Cannabis / THC Workshop? – pending further discussion

12:00 PM

**LUNCH**

1:00 PM

**Breakout Groups: 2024 Texas Impaired Driving Plan**

- Critical Dates:
  - April 30 – Final integrations to the Editor
  - May 15 – No further changes will be accepted
  - May 20 – Send to Executive Committee (EC)
    - Please review final 2024 Impaired Driving Plan
  - May 30 – Signatures DUE from EC
  - May 31 – Final 2024 IDP submitted to TxDOT
- The membership broke out into stakeholder groups to provide round two revisions to the 2024 Texas Impaired Driving Plan.

3:00 PM

**Conclusion and Adjournment**

