

Shawn McElmurry

From: Shawn McElmurry
Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2017
To: Matthew Seeger; Marcus Z... ul Kilgore
Subject: Fwd: Laura Sullivan posting... eting
Attachments: FB_IMG_1484193658548.jpg... ;53482.jpg

1 of 2

Shawn P. McElmurry, PhD, PE
Associate Professor
Wayne State University

----- Original message -----

From: Marc Edwards <edwardsm@vt.edu>
Date: 1/12/17 1:30 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "'Wells, Eden (DHHS)" <WellsE3@michigan.gov>, "'Baird, Richard (GOV)" <bairdr@michigan.gov>, kaplan.robert@epa.gov
Cc: Shawn McElmurry <s.mcelmurry@wayne.edu>, "'Deltoral, Miguel'" <deltoral.miguel@epa.gov>
Subject: Laura Sullivan posting before town hall meeting

Shawn

This is one of the most unprofessional posts by a professor that I have ever seen.

I am at a loss for words. But then again, it sure does explain a lot.

You cannot take something like this back. You cannot even apologize for something like this.

Marc

Editors Note: PUBLIC Facebook posting by
FACHEP member Dr. Laura Sullivan.

JAN 11, 2017

[Laura Sullivan](#)

[January 11](#) ·

Dear friends,

Yesterday I attended a data summit, hosted by the US EPA. The purpose of the summit was to review Flint water and infrastructure data collected since the last summit in August. The meeting was closed to the public, and requests to provide live stream access were denied because, according to Mark Durno, EPA liaison to Flint, scientists had to be free to discuss their data.

I took copious notes and will post them later, but suffice it to say that there's nothing to suggest that the quality of water in Flint has improved consistently, there is evidence that lead levels are still spiking, and EPA/MDEQ data show that the amount of Chlorine (which is necessary to disinfect water) is still too low in some areas. Dr. Marc Edwards decided to use some of his presentation time to discredit the work of Wayne State, UM Ann Arbor, MSU, Kettering, and Henry Ford Hospital, suggesting that we have encouraged residents to discontinue using filters for lead. In fact, these experts from Michigan universities and hospitals continue to emphasize that the filters are necessary for removing lead. We note that in parts of the city where disinfection is inadequate, residents should flush water through their filters and in some cases boil water to remove bacteria that has been detected in the water, and bacteria that is growing in water filters.

I'd like to say that tonight's townhall, orchestrated to deliver a summary of yesterday's EPA meeting, has not been choreographed. But it has. I'd like to hope that Dr. Edwards won't use his platform to discredit someone he doesn't agree with, but he might. I'd like you, friends who know I've been in this fight for 2+ year, without any request for compensation or title, to listen to the sad, overwhelmed, frustrated voices of Flint residents tonight. I'm one of them. Who knows why the state and Marc Edwards seek to proclaim that Flint is in no worse a situation than other cities. Please know that they are wrong.

As Rachel Maddow says (someone who helped bring this problem to your attention)...

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· [January 11 at 5:37pm](#)



[Bennett Collins](#) Can i share this?

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· [January 11 at 5:49pm](#)



[Laura Sullivan](#) Yes, Bennett! Around the world!

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· [January 11 at 6:11pm](#)



[David Uhl](#) Good luck. I hope it doesn't turn into better than/worse than other cities. The water quality either meets acceptable levels or it doesn't. If it doesn't, more work is needed.

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· [January 11 at 5:52pm](#)



[William Hammond](#) Can you explain what the difference of opinion is between the experts?

I hear that the water still is not safe to use w/o filters. That a high percentage of tested homes are below the Federal standard. I don't see this information as contradictory.

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· [January 11 at 6:15pm](#)



[Laura Sullivan](#) I don't understand your question, William. Do you mean the experts who were present tonight on the stage?

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[William Hammond](#) [Laura Sullivan](#) In your statement above you make it sound like there is disagreement between the experts, Dr. Edwards, & McElmurry & some others. So that's what I was asking about.

But now tonight, after the mtg. I'm not hearing this disagreement. (See my comment below). Am I missing something?

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[Laura Sullivan](#) Ah. Where disagreement exists is over (1) whether or not to say that lead is the only pathogen of concern, (2) whether or not the water distribution system (pipes) have reached equilibrium and is stable, and (3) whether or not Flint can be categorized as being like any other city with lead pipes.

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[Laura Sullivan](#) For (1): DEQ, EPA, CDC, and Dr. Edwards said yes. Drs. McElmurry, Love, and Caravallah said no. For (2), DEQ and Dr. Edwards way yes. Drs. Caravallah and McElmurray said no.

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[Laura Sullivan](#) For (3), some DEQ, some EPA, Dr Wells, and Dr. Edwards say yes. Some DEQ and some EPA say no, as do Drs. McElmurry and Love.

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[William Hammond](#) Thanks. I did not pick that up at tonight's mtg. It seemed like they were all pretty much in agreement.

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[Laura Sullivan](#) I get that. A townhall can't really be a format for critique and debate.

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· [January 12 at 12:50am](#)