
From: Butler, Sonya (DEQ)
Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2015 8:43 AM
To: Fitzner, Wendy (DEQ);Green, Kelly (DEQ);Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ);Swendsen, Kurt (DEQ);Benzie, Richard (DEQ)
Subject: FW: flint article

FYI

From: Marquardt, Steve [<mailto:marquardt.steve@epa.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 4:29 PM
To: Butler, Sonya (DEQ)
Subject: flint article

FLINT (WJRT) - (02/24/15) - Flint Mayor Dayne Walling wants to make sure the city's water troubles are being heard on Capitol Hill.

Mayor Walling sent a letter to the President's office urging the federal government to focus their attention on the City of Flint.

Last month, Mayor Walling reached out to Gov. Snyder, and not long after his request action was taken in the form of grant money given to the city.

Because of that response, he's hopeful federal officials will act fast.

"I believe we need to have all the expertise at the table possible," Walling said.

Walling said he is doing anything and everything to get more eyes on the Flint water situation.

"We have not had the federal presence and the EPA. That's why I reached out to the Presidents Director of Intergovernmental Affairs and asked for that support," Walling said.

In a letter addressed to the White House, Walling wrote, "I am requesting participation from the White House and Environmental Protection Agency on a City of Flint Technical Advisory Committee."

"I'm optimistic that we will have strong federal support on this," Walling said.

The committee is a group formed by the City of Flint to address water worries of residents. It's made up of Flint area medical professionals, Mid-Michigan universities and even General Motors.

Walling said the missing link is the federal government.

"The technical advisory committee will bring expertise to the table to review our plans on distribution improvements and treatment improvements and how all of this is affecting public health.

As the City of Flint works toward getting back to local control out from under the emergency manager, Walling is stepping out to nurture resources for the future.

"This is one of the things I have to do as an elected official is I have to speak out for our community and I have

to ask for the help and assistance that we need. I am going to do that whether we have an Emergency Manager or not or whether the governor is a Democrat or a Republican. This is something that our community needs and we expect a response," Walling said.

No official date has been set for the Technical Advisory Water Committee's first meeting, but the Mayor says it will be some time in March.