Saint Paul Regional Water Services June 14, 2016

STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT

BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 16-1020

Pertaining to payment of a judgment arising from a claim by State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company against the Board of Water Commissioners.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Staff and the Office of Risk Management is recommending the amount \$8,028.52 be paid to State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company as final settlement of a claim for property damages resulting from a June 23, 2015 motor vehicle accident involving a SPRWS crew van.

The matter was brought to conciliation court May 9, 2016 and the Court ordered that SPRWS pay State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company the sum of \$8,028.52, effective June 1, 2016.

See attached Summary and resolution.

RECOMMENDATION

Approval is recommended.

Summary of June 23, 2015 Vehicle Accident and Claim

Description of Accident

On June 23, 2015, a SPRWS crew van towing a compressor was traveling eastbound on Central Ave. in Saint Paul. After stopping at a Stop sign, mounted above a Right Turn Only sign at Dale St., the SPRWS driver proceeded straight across the intersection. A 2006 Honda Civic traveling northbound on Dale St. struck the compressor, sustaining damage to its front end. The SPRWS driver alleged that the driver of the Honda was speeding and that after cresting a hill, changed lanes, presuming he could maintain speed and go around the crew van, apparently not seeing the compressor. There were no independent witnesses and no citations were issued as part of the police report.

A property damage claim (C150141) for a total loss of the 2006 Honda Civic was submitted by State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company against the Board of Water Commissioners and was denied.

Claimant, State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, brought SPRWS to conciliation court May 9, 2016 and the Court awarded judgment against SPRWS in the amount of \$8,028.52 effective June 1, 2016.

SPRWS Accident Review Board categorized this accident as Preventable/Serious. The SPRWS employee driving the crew van was a probationary employee and SPRWS terminated his employment because of this accident and other performance issues.