

Redlined Code Section

Deleted language indicated by strikethrough and inserted language indicated by underline.
Language moved from other chapters indicated by double underline.

Chapter 88. Water Code – Meters

Sec. 88.01. Definitions.

For the purposes of this chapter, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings ascribed to them unless it is apparent from the context that a different meaning is intended:

Cable. A multiwire conductor between the meter and the remote meter reading device.

Exterior-mounted non-radio metering system. A meter with a connecting cable and a remote meter reading receptacle. An exterior mounted non-radio meter reading system has no power source (battery).

Exterior-mounted radio metering system. A meter with a connecting cable and a remote radio transmitter.

Meter. A water measuring device fitted with a register that records water volume.

Metering system. Either a radio or a non-radio system, which shall include all devices and appurtenances from and including the meter through the radio transmitter or remote meter reading receptacle.

Radio metering system. Either a meter with an integrated radio transmitter or a meter with a connecting cable and a remote radio transmitter. The radio transmitter includes an integral power source (battery).

Remote meter reading device. Either a remote meter reading receptacle or a remote radio transmitter.

Remote meter reading receptacle. An exterior-mounted non-radio device from which meter readings are obtained by physical connection.

Remote radio transmitter. An exterior-mounted radio device from which meter readings are transmitted.

Structure. A building, pit or above-ground housing in which a meter is installed.

Sec. 88.015. Standard and alternate metering systems.

The standard water metering system shall be ~~a meter integrated with a radio transmitter.~~ an exterior-mounted radio metering system. Upon written notice to and approval by the water utility, the owner may choose ~~one (1) of the following alternate metering systems:~~ an exterior-mounted non-radio metering system, subject to an additional charge for each reading. Such charge will be added to the water bill in the amount listed in the fee schedule established pursuant to Sec. 85.08.

~~(a) Exterior-mounted radio metering system, subject to no additional charge.~~

~~(b) Exterior-mounted non-radio metering system, subject to an additional charge for each reading.~~

Sec. 88.02. Meters/metering systems required.

- (a) *New installations.* A metering system as designated by the board must be installed on all new water service connections.
- (b) *Flat rate services.* The board may order a meter or metering system installed on any flat rate account when it deems it advisable. The meter setting shall conform to all appropriate sections of this Code. All costs to provide a meter setting, including plumbing costs, shall be the responsibility of the owner.
- (c) *Replacement of existing meters.* The board may adopt a plan for the replacement of existing meters with a complete metering system. The board may order the installation of the metering system in existing residential, commercial and industrial property in accord with the plan as adopted, or as it may be amended, when the board deems it advisable to do so. The plan shall provide that advance notice shall be given to all customers prior to replacement of existing meters.

Sec. 88.03. Property of board.

All meters, radio transmitters and remote meter reading devices installed on other than fire services shall be the property of the board of water commissioners.

Sec. 88.04. Reserved.

Sec. 88.05. Where required.

Except where a combined fire and domestic water system is approved, the supply of water through each separate street service connection must be recorded by one (1) meter only, for which only one (1) account will be maintained by the water utility.

Sec. 88.06. Private meters.

If additional or auxiliary meters are desired for recording the subdivision of a water supply, they must be furnished and set by the owner or consumer at their expense, and all responsibility for reading and maintaining same shall be assumed by the owner or consumer.

Sec. 88.07. Cost of meter setting.

(a) *Initial setting.* The charge to set the first meter following the installation of the street service connection shall be the actual cost of the meter and metering system for the amount listed in the fee schedule established pursuant to Sec. 85.08.

(b) *Resetting.*

(1) Meter Setting Charges to reset a meter when requested by the owner will be applied to the water bill shall be as follows for the amount listed in the fee schedule established pursuant to Sec. 85.08.:

~~1 inch and smaller — Current Turn On Service Charge~~

~~1 ½ inch and larger — Actual cost of setting~~

Charges shall not apply where the owner requests a change from an alternate metering system to the standard metering system.

(2) Meter Setting Charges to set a meter when change in meter size is requested by the owner and approved by the water utility ~~shall be as follows:~~ will be applied to the water bill for the amount listed in the fee schedule established pursuant to Sec. 85.08.

~~1 inch and smaller — Current Turn On Service Charge~~

~~1 ½ inch and larger — Actual cost of setting plus actual cost of the metering system~~

Sec. 88.075. Reserved. Charge for reading remote meter reading receptacles.

~~A charge of \$12.00 for every actual or estimated reading of remote meter reading receptacles performed by the water utility shall be added to the water bill to recover the extra costs associated with non-radio metering systems.~~

Sec. 88.08. Accessibility.

Meters and remote meter reading devices must at all times be easily accessible so that they may be examined and meter readings obtained by employees of the water utility. Meters must not be exposed to danger from frost or contamination. It is unlawful to cover or obstruct any water meter or remote meter reading device either permanently or temporarily.

Sec. 88.09. By whom set and maintained.

The installation, replacement, repair and disconnection of all meters and metering systems is to be performed by employees or authorized representatives of the water utility only. However, where the owner requests an alternate metering system, cable shall be provided by the water utility at its McCarrons facility, and installed and maintained by the owner or owner's representative in accordance with water utility standards. Failure to maintain the cable in accordance with water utility standards is a violation of this Code and will be subject to shut off of water supply. Valves, fittings, and piping in the vicinity of the meter shall be maintained in a state of good repair by the owner to permit such installation, replacement, repair and disconnection.

Sec. 88.10. Damaged meters and metering systems.

- (a) If any part of the metering system is damaged, either through neglect or carelessness of the consumer, the actual cost of repairs, or replacement if beyond repair, must be paid for by the property owner as defined by the fee schedule established pursuant to Sec. 85.08.
- (b) Lost or stolen meters or metering system components shall be replaced by the water utility at the expense of the property owner.
- (c) It is unlawful to tamper with, disconnect or remove the meter, register, radio transmitter, cable or remote meter reading device.
- (d) Except for the cable, the cost of ordinary maintenance and repairs will be the responsibility of the water utility.
- (e) In case of breakage, stoppage or other irregularity in the meter, meter setting or metering system, the property owner shall notify the water utility immediately.
- (f) Meters damaged due to freezing shall be repaired or replaced at the expense of the property owner.

Sec. 88.11. Meter testing.

- (a) At the request of an owner or consumer, the utility will test the meter supplying the owner's or consumer's premises. ~~A deposit determined from the following schedule shall be required before a meter is tested:—~~

Meters 1-inch and smaller—	\$ 35.00—
Meters 1½-inch and 2-inch—	75.00—
Meters 3-inch and 4-inch—	125.00—
Meters 6-inch and larger—	Actual cost—
Meters in meter pits—	Actual cost—

- (b) If the meter is found to be registering in excess of one hundred two percent (102%) of actual flow, there will be no charge the deposit will be returned to the consumer. If not, a Meter Testing Charge, in the amount listed in the fee schedule established pursuant to Sec. 85.08 will be applied to the water bill.~~If not, the deposit will be retained by the utility to offset the cost of the meter test.—~~
- (c) The meter shall be tested at three (3) rates of flow: maximum, intermediate, and minimum, as defined by the American Water Works Association (AWWA) Standard for Testing Cold Water Meters, C 705-60 or latest revision thereof.
- (d) The owner may, if desired, be present at the time the meter is tested. The result of the test shall be reported to the owner in every case.

Sec. 88.12. Adjustments.

If the testing of a meter, as provided for in Section 88.11, shows that the meter fails to register within acceptable limits of ninety-eight (98) to one hundred two (102) percent of actual flow, the charge to the consumer shall be adjusted accordingly.

Sec. 88.13. Location of remote meter reading devices.

Remote meter reading devices shall be located outside of the structure in conformance with water utility standards.

Sec. 88.14. Illegal use of unmetered water.

It is illegal to use unmetered water, except where the water utility has approved a flat rate account or has established special temporary service. Where evidence of illegal unmetered water use is found, charges will be applied to the account at regular water rates based on an estimated amount of unmetered water. In addition, the property owner shall be subject to a fine of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), which shall be applied to the regular water bill. Unmetered water use at a property includes, and can arise from, activity such as illegally tapping the water line ahead of the metering system, installing a spacer in the meter setting without notifying the water utility, tampering with the water metering system or other willful violations of this Code.

Sec. 88.15. Meters, settings, cable installation.

- (a) The meter setting shall include the water meter, the meter valves and check valve when required, installed in accordance with meter setting standards of the water utility. The normal setting from the centerline of the meter spuds to the wall shall not be less than eight (8) inches for one-inch and smaller meters, or closer than ten (10) inches for two-inch and one-and-one-half-inch meters. The height above the floor in all instances shall not be less than twelve (12) inches or more than forty-eight (48) inches except by special permission.
- (b) Piping and materials within the meter setting between the meter valves and at least one foot of the vertical riser shall be type K copper or lead-free brass. Copper materials used before the meter shall be brazed or flared type K. The meter setting and metallic portion of the vertical riser shall be strong and securely attached to an adjacent wall to prevent sagging, swaying or undue vibration. On new services or renewals, the meter shall in all cases be set above the floor.
- (c) Large meters may be set directly on the floor when their weight cannot otherwise be properly supported. Where the owner requests a remote meter reading device, the owner or owner's representative shall install cable from the meter to the proposed remote meter reading device location. Cable installation and remote meter reading device location shall conform to water utility standards. Cable shall be furnished in sufficient length to facilitate connection by the water utility at the meter and the remote meter reading device.

Sec. 88.16. Curb or yard meter settings.

- (a) The use of meter vaults for meter installations will be allowed only by special permission, or at the direction of the water utility. Where permitted or required the meter vault shall be constructed at a site approved by the water utility utilizing materials and design which meet water utility standards. The meter vault must be waterproof and the finished grade sloped to divert drainage away from the vault. Two (2) sets of drawings shall be furnished to the water utility showing a site plan and the details of construction of the vault. A remote meter reading device shall be required in vaults.
- (b) It shall be the owner's responsibility to maintain the meter vault and accessibility to the vault so that the water meter can be read on a regular basis. This includes the removal of snow and ice which prevent access to the meter vault and the removal of water from the underground portions of the meter vault when necessary. The water utility, after proper notice, may terminate service if the owner fails to properly maintain the meter vault or accessibility to the meter vault.

Sec. 88.17. Removal of meters.

- (a) Meters shall be removed only by an employee of the water utility except in case of an emergency or when a plumber changes the meter location or drains the system. When a meter is removed for such reason it shall be reset or a spacer pipe shall be inserted, and the water utility shall be notified of such action immediately. It is unlawful to break the seal on any meter except for the purpose above indicated.
- (b) Where disconnection of remote reading cable is required when removing a meter, the water utility shall be notified immediately.

Sec. 88.18. Meters, shutoff valves.

- (a) Each service shall be provided with two (2) valves, one (1) on either side of the meter. Both valves shall be the same size as the service pipe or larger. All meter shutoff valves shall comply with water utility standards.
- (b) On combined fire and domestic water systems, the first shut-off valve on the domestic service shall be an approved full-way valve with lockable handle.