

Section 02085

VALVE BOXES, METER BOXES AND METER VAULTS

PART 1 GENERAL

1.01 SECTION INCLUDES

- A. Valve boxes for water service.
- B. Meter boxes for water service.
- C. Meter vaults for water service.

1.02 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT

A. Unit Prices.

1. No separate payment will be made for valve boxes under this Section. Include payment in unit price for Section 02511 - Water Lines.
2. No separate payment will be made for meter boxes under this Section. Include payment in unit price for Section 02512 - Water Tap and Service Line Installation.
3. Payment for each size of meter vaults is on unit price basis per vault. Payment will be made for each vault installed, regardless of depth.
4. Refer to Section 01270 - Measurement and Payment for unit price procedures.

- B. Stipulated Price (Lump Sum). If Contract is Stipulated Price Contract, payment for work in this Section is included in total Stipulated Price.

1.03 REFERENCES

- A. ASTM A 48 - Standard Specification for Gray Iron Castings.
- B. ASTM D 256 - Standard Test Methods for Determining the Izod Pendulum Impact Resistance of Plastics.
- C. ASTM D 638 - Standard Test Method for Tensile Properties of Plastics.
- D. ASTM D 648 - Standard Test Method for Deflection Temperature of Plastics Under Flexural Load in the Edgewise Position.

- E. ASTM D 790 - Standard Test Methods for Flexural Properties of Unreinforced and Reinforced Plastics and Electrical Insulating Materials.
- 6. ASTM D 2240 - Standard Test Method for Rubber Property-Durometer Hardness.

1.04 SUBMITTALS

- A. Conform to requirements of Section 01330 - Submittal Procedures.
- B. Submit manufacturers= product data for following items for approval:
 - 1. Each type of valve box and lid.
 - 2. Each type of meter box and cover.
 - 3. Each type of meter vault frame and cover.
- C. Submit design calculations and shop drawings for precast vault elements, sealed by an Engineer registered in State of Texas.
- D. Submit shop drawings for cast-in-place meter vaults for approval if proposed construction varies from Drawings.
- E. Submit manufacturer's certification that plastic meter boxes meet requirements of Paragraph 2.05, Plastic Meter Boxes.

PART 2 PRODUCTS

2.01 VALVE BOXES

- A. Provide Type A, cast-iron/ductile-iron, slide-type, valve boxes as manufactured by Sigma, Lone Star or approved equal. Design of valve box shall minimize stresses on valve imposed by loads on box lid.
- B. Cast letter "W" into lid, 2 inch in height and raised 3/32 inch, for valves serving potable water lines.
- C. Coat boxes, bases, and lids by dipping in hot bituminous varnish.
- D. Riser Pipe.
 - 1. Provide 6-inch PVC, SDR 26, riser pipes in accordance with Section 02506 - Polyvinyl Chloride Pipe.
 - 2. Provide single section of pipe.

E. Concrete for valve box placement:

1. For locations in new concrete pavement, provide strength and mix design of new pavement.
2. For other locations, provide concrete for sidewalks conforming to requirements of Section 02751 - Concrete Paving.

2.02 METER BOXES

A. Provide meter boxes for e-inch through 1-inch meters of the following materials:

1. Non-traffic bearing locations: Cast iron, concrete or plastic.
2. Traffic bearing locations: Cast iron.

B. Extensions: Meter box extensions 3 inches and 6 inches in height shall be available from manufacturer as standard item.

2.03 CAST-IRON METER BOXES

A. Cast-Iron Boxes: Clean and free from sand blow-holes or other defects conforming to requirements of ASTM A 48. Bearing surfaces shall be machined so that covers seat evenly in frames.

B. Boxes and lids shall have dipped, coal-tar-pitch, varnish finish.

C. Provide lock-type meter boxes when required by Drawings. Lock mechanisms shall work with ease.

2.04 CONCRETE METER BOXES

A. Concrete Meter Boxes: Made of Class A concrete, with minimum 4000 psi compressive strength, conforming to requirements of Section 03315 - Concrete for Utility Construction. Construct to dimensions shown on Drawings.

B. Castings: Free from fractures, large or deep cracks, blisters or surface roughness or any other defects that may affect serviceability.

2.05 PLASTIC METER BOXES

A. Plastic Meter Boxes: Made of high density polyethylene conforming to the following ASTM standards:

ASTM	REQUIREMENT
D 256	Impact Strength = 1.9 ft.-lb./inch (Izod, Notched)
D 256	Impact Strength = 6.4 ft.-lb./inch (Izod, Un-Notched)
D 638	Tensile Strength (2.0 min.) = 3400 psi
D 648	Deflection Temperature = 170 degrees F
D 2240	Shore D, Hardness, 55-65 Impact Strength, Falling Dart Method, 160 inch-lb.
D 790	Flexural Modulus = 90,000 psi

B. Meter boxes shall meet the following test requirements:

1. Static Load: Not less than 2500 pounds using 6-inch disc with direct compression exerted at center of top of meter box with solid plastic lid.
2. Deflection: Not less than 1000 pounds load required to deflect top edge of meter box c-inch.

C. Meter box body, without lid, shall weigh approximately 7 pounds.

2.06 METER VAULTS

- A. Meter vaults may be constructed of precast concrete, cast-in-place concrete or common brick masonry unless a specific type of construction is required by Drawings.
- B. Concrete for Meter Vaults: Class A concrete, conforming to requirements of Section 03315 - Concrete for Utility Construction with minimum compressive strength of 4000 psi at 28 days.
- C. Reinforcing steel for meter vaults: Conform to requirements of Section 03315 Concrete for Utility Construction.
- D. Grates and Covers: Conform to requirements of Section 02084 - Frames, Grates, Rings, and Covers.

PART 3 EXECUTION

3.01 EXAMINATION

- A. Obtain approval from City Engineer for location of meter vault.
- B. Verify lines and grade are correct.

- C. Verify compacted subgrade will support loads imposed by vaults.

3.02 VALVE BOXES

- A. Install riser pipe with suitable length for depth of cover indicated on Drawings or to accommodate actual finish grade.
 - 1. Install with bell on top of valve
 - 2. Place riser pipe in plumb, vertical position
- B. Install valve box and riser piping plumbed in a vertical position. Provide 6-inches telescoping freeboard space between riser pipe top butt end, and interior contact flange of valve box, for vertical movement damping. Riser (bell end of pipe) shall rest on valve.
- C. After valve box has been set, aligned, and adjusted so that lid is level with final grade, pour a 24-inch by 24-inch by 8-inch-thick concrete block around valve box for asphalt pavement only. Center valve box horizontally within concrete block.
- D. Paint covers of new valve boxes in fluorescent orange when installed. After completion and acceptance by City, repaint covers black.

3.03 METER BOXES

- A. Install cast iron or plastic boxes in accordance with manufacturers instructions.
- B. Construct concrete meter boxes to dimensions shown on Drawings.
- C. Adjust top of meter boxes to conform to cover elevations specified in Paragraph 3.05, Frame and Cover for Meter Vaults.
- D. Do not locate under paved areas unless approved by City Engineer. Use approved traffic-type box with cast iron lid when meter must be located in paved areas.

3.04 METER VAULTS

- A. Construct concrete meter vaults to dimensions shown on Drawings. Do not cast in presence of water. Make bottom uniform. Verify lines and grades are correct and compacted subgrade will support loads imposed by vaults.
- B. Precast Meter Vaults:
 - 1. Install precast vaults in accordance with manufacturers recommendations. Set level on a minimum 3-inch-thick bed of sand conforming to requirements of Section 02320 - Utility Backfill Materials.

2. Seal lifting holes with cement-sand mortar or non-shrink grout.

C. Meter Vault Floor Slab:

1. Construct floor slabs of 6-inch-thick reinforced concrete. Slope floor 3 inch per foot toward sump. Make sump 12 inches in diameter, or 12 inches square, and 4 inches deep, unless other dimensions are required by Drawings. Install dowels at maximum of 18 inches, center-to-center for keying walls to floor slab.
2. Precast floor slab elements may be used for precast vault construction

D. Cast-in-Place Meter Vault Walls:

1. Key walls to floor slab and form to dimensions shown on Drawings. Minimum wall thickness shall be 4 inches.
2. Cast walls monolithically. One cold joint will be allowed when vault depth exceeds 12 feet.
3. Set frame for cover in concrete

3.05 FRAME AND COVER FOR METER VAULTS

A. Set cast iron frame in a mortar bed and adjust elevation of cover as follows:

1. In unpaved areas, set top of meter box or meter vault cover 2 to 3 inches above natural grade
2. In paved areas, set top of meter box or meter vault cover flush with adjacent concrete but no higher than 2-inch

3.06 BACKFILL

- A. Provide bank run sand in accordance with Section 02320 - Utility Backfill Materials and backfill and compact in accordance with Section 02317 - Excavation and Backfill for Utilities.
- B. In unpaved areas, slope backfill around meter boxes and vaults to provide a uniform slope 1-to-5 slope from top to natural grade.
- C. In paved areas, slope concrete down from meter box or vault to meet adjacent paved area.

END OF SECTION