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(54) Title: WATER METER INCLUDING VARIABLE ORIFICE DEVICE

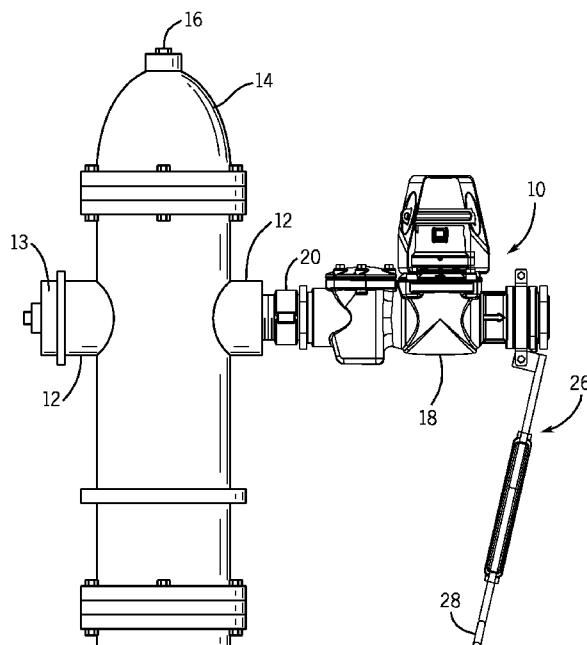


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: A fire hydrant water meter having a flow re-
stricting device that creates back pressure to restrict the flow
of water through the fire hydrant water meter. The flow re-
stricting device includes a plurality of flexible vanes that
combine to define a variable orifice. As the flow of water
through the meter increases, the individual flexible vanes
move away from each other to expand the size of the flow
orifice. The flow restricting device provides a source of back
pressure to water flowing through the meter to restrict the
flow rate of water and thus protect the metering device con-
tained within the fire hydrant water meter.



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