

Inside KUB Procurement

Quarterly Newsletter
January–March 2025

www.kub.org/procurement

Email: Smallbiz@KUB.org
Diversity@KUB.org



**SUPPLIER
DIVERSITY**

KUB provides more than 501,000 customers in Knox and parts of seven surrounding counties with safe and reliable electric, fiber, natural gas, wastewater treatment, and water services.

Supplier Diversity Program at Work: Premiere Building Maintenance



Last year, KUB “de-bundled” its large facilities contract into three smaller sections: landscaping, janitorial, and general maintenance. Premiere Building Maintenance, a Minority-Owned Business (MBE), won KUB’s janitorial bid, worth \$1.39 million.

Premiere Building Maintenance’s work is vital to the upkeep of KUB’s various campuses. Company President and CEO Mark Isom (pictured left) shares KUB’s desire to grow supplier diversity programs and works within his own company to help promote other MBEs and Women-Owned Businesses (WBEs). KUB is proud to work with community-driven companies such as Premiere and all other MBE and WBEs as part of the Supplier Diversity Program.

Upcoming Events

KUB Procurement Showcase

Are you a contractor looking to do business with KUB? KUB’s Procurement Department wants to connect with you!

January 14, 8–10 a.m.

**KUB Corporate Services, Training Room B
4505 Middlebrook Pike, Knoxville, TN 37921**

KUB’s Procurement Department staff members will share information with vendors about registering with the new bidding platform, BidNet. The BidNet presentation will begin at 8 a.m. KUB staff members from its Engineering, Properties, and Information Technology Departments will share information about their upcoming projects and be available to answer questions.

Open House Events

KUB’s Procurement Department staff members will be available to help vendors sign up for BidNet, KUB’s new bidding platform.

January 28 and February 4, 8–10 a.m.

**KUB Corporate Services, PC Lab
4505 Middlebrook Pike, Knoxville, TN 37921**



Upcoming Opportunities

Contract Services:

- KUB Operations Building elevator modernization
- Manhole inspection services
- Hourly water service and main repairs
- Harrison Keepe Pump Station improvements
- Galvanized waterline replacement

Purchasing:

- Water heaters
- Distribution transformers

How to Bid on KUB Projects with the New Bidding Platform

1. Visit bidnetdirect.com
2. Click “Vendor Registration”
3. Create a free account (Limited)
4. Verify your email address via emailed link from BidNet, and create your password
5. Create company profile (or select from list if the profile is already created)
6. To search within BidNet for KUB bids, search “KUB” in the keywords search box

Check for open KUB bids:

Visit kub.org/procurement and click view open bids and request for proposals.

Meet your Contract Specialists



Zach Breeding
(Team Lead)

How long have you been at KUB, and which departments do you work with?

I have been with KUB for 25 years. I am the Contract Specialist for Underground and Overhead Construction, Meters, Safety, Vegetation Management, System Maintenance–Pipes and System Maintenance–Wires.

What is one thing all bidders should know about contracting with KUB?

Bidding with KUB, which is a public utility, is very different than bidding in the private sector, and there are certain rules and regulations that we're required to abide by.

What is a piece of advice you'd give to a company that wants to work with KUB?

Don't hesitate to ask questions.

What is the most interesting contract you've put together?

Probably the MBW Water Treatment Plant Filters installation, which is the single largest contract bid in KUB history at more than \$65 million.

How long have you been at KUB, and which departments do you work with?

I have been with KUB for three years. I am the Contract Specialist for the for Engineering and Operations groups.

What is one thing all bidders should know about contracting with KUB?

A large portion of the bids I advertise require contractor prequalification. It is a good idea to start this process before there is an advertised bid you would like to participate in, so there is ample time to complete the application process.

What is a piece of advice you'd give to a company that wants to work with KUB?

Stay in touch! Frequently monitor our bid postings on our website to see if there is anything within your scope of work.



Abbey Marshall



Katie McGonigal

How long have you been at KUB, and which departments do you work with?

I have been with KUB for two months. I am the Contract Specialist for Fiber and Technology, Customer Service, Finance, and Administrative Divisions. I also work on contractor prequalification.

What is one thing all bidders should know about contracting with KUB?

Instructions matter – make sure that you are providing the information being requested and complete the application in its entirety.

What is a piece of advice you'd give to a company that wants to work with KUB?

Some projects require that companies be pre-qualified with KUB in order to bid. You can contact us for further details if you aren't sure if you need to be pre-qualified or aren't sure which categories to apply for.

What is the most interesting contract you've put together? A contract for elevator modifications.

How long have you been at KUB? How has KUB helped your career goals so far?

I have been with KUB for three months as a student. I feel like KUB has helped my career goals in a big way because I am getting exposure to all different aspects of supply chain. I work primarily in procurement with contract services, but I also spend time in the storeroom and assist with purchasing if they need anything done. This has been a great way to learn in different environments and connect the processes together from the start to finish of a project.

What is the most interesting project you've assisted on?

So far, the most interesting project I've taken part in is the Kuwahee Sludge De-Watering Building roof replacement. While this is probably a pretty typical project for my more experienced co-workers, I thought it was interesting to be a part of the on-site pre-bid meeting at a place I drive by almost every day on my way to campus.



Kayla Anderson
(Student)

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